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Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO.
109

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SONIC

TM

THE HEDGEHOG



SEGA

SO-IT-OUT



After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over the planet MOBIUS was believed to have ended! Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue blur who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT...
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!



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I HEARD IT THROUGH THE PIPELINE

part 1

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YO, ROTOR
YOU LOOK WAY
BUMMED OUT,
OR MY NAME
ISN'T

SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG



WELL, IT'S BEEN TWELVE
YEARS SINCE MY FAMILY
SENT ME TO MOBOTROP-
OLIS TO GET AN
EDUCATION.



I DON'T
GET IT...

...WHY
DOES THAT
MAKE YOU
SAD,
DUDE?



"MY MOM, ALONG WITH MY
KID BROTHER SKEETER,
AND MY ENTIRE HERD BACK
HOME...★"

★SEE SONIC 85 - ED.

...HAVE FALLEN
UNDER DOCTOR ROBOT-
NIK'S HYPNOTIC
CONTROL!

NO PROB!
I'VE GOT AN
IDEA!

WHY
DON'T
WE--

--USE THE SWORD OF
ACORNS' MYSTICAL STRENGTH
TO REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF
ROBOTNIK'S NEUTRON BOMB?

THAT
WOULD FREE
THE HERD!

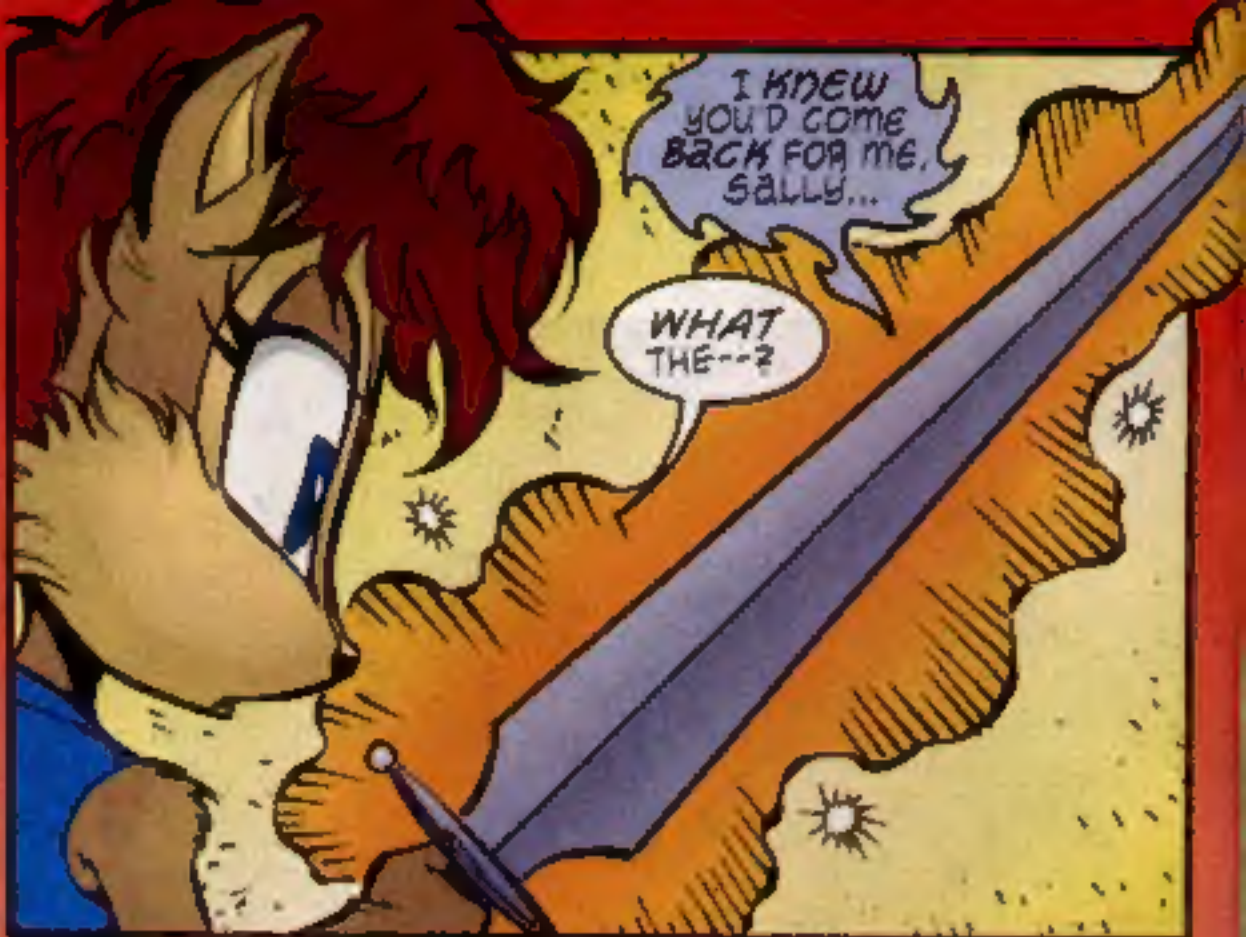
TOTALLY!

MINUTES
LATER...

...INSIDE
CASTLE
ACORN...



...PRINCESS
SALLY ACORN
GRASPS THE SWORD
WHICH ONCE BELONGED
TO HER FATHER,
THE KING.



I KNEW
YOU'D COME
BACK FOR ME,
SALLY...

WHAT
THE--?



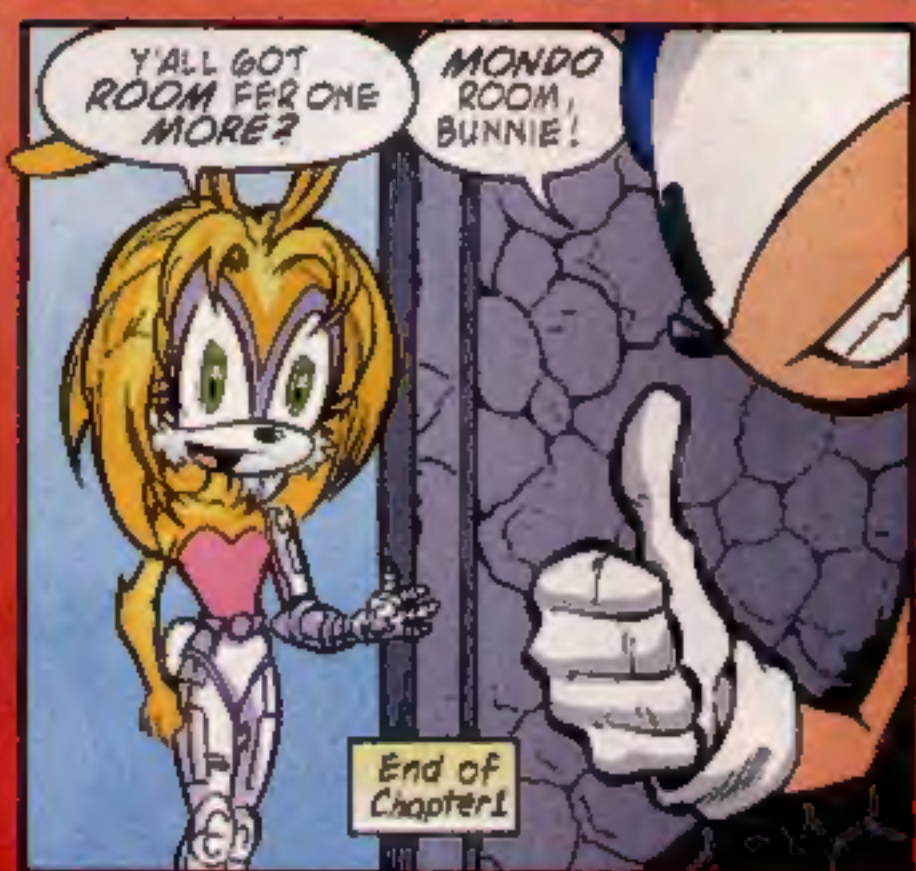
DID ANYONE
HEAR THAT?

HEAR WHAT?
ARE YOU OKAY,
SAL?



THEN,
LET'S
JUICE!

UMM...
SURE!



Y'ALL GOT
ROOM FER ONE
MORE?

MONDO
ROOM,
BUNNIE!

End of
Chapter 1

THANKS
TO YOU
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG

I'M
FINALLY TAKING
CARE OF FAMILY
BUSINESS!

I HERD IT THROUGH THE PIPELINE

part 2

OH...
I DON'T
FEEL SO
GOOD...

Y'ALL GOT
A BUCKET ON
BOARD?

DON'T WORRY!
WE'LL BE THERE
IN NO...

LOOK--
ON THE OCEAN
FLOOR BENEATH
US!

IT'S AN
OIL PIPELINE
THAT SEEMS TO
GO ON
FOREVER!

BUT
WHO'D BUILD
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT?

AT THAT VERY
MOMENT IN
ROBOTROPOLIS...

WHY DOES
THAT BLASTED
HEDGEHOG AND
HIS GOODY-GOODY
FRIENDS ALWAYS
SEE FIT TO MEDDLE
IN MY AFFAIRS,
SNIVELY?

WELL,
SIR,
I--

BAH!

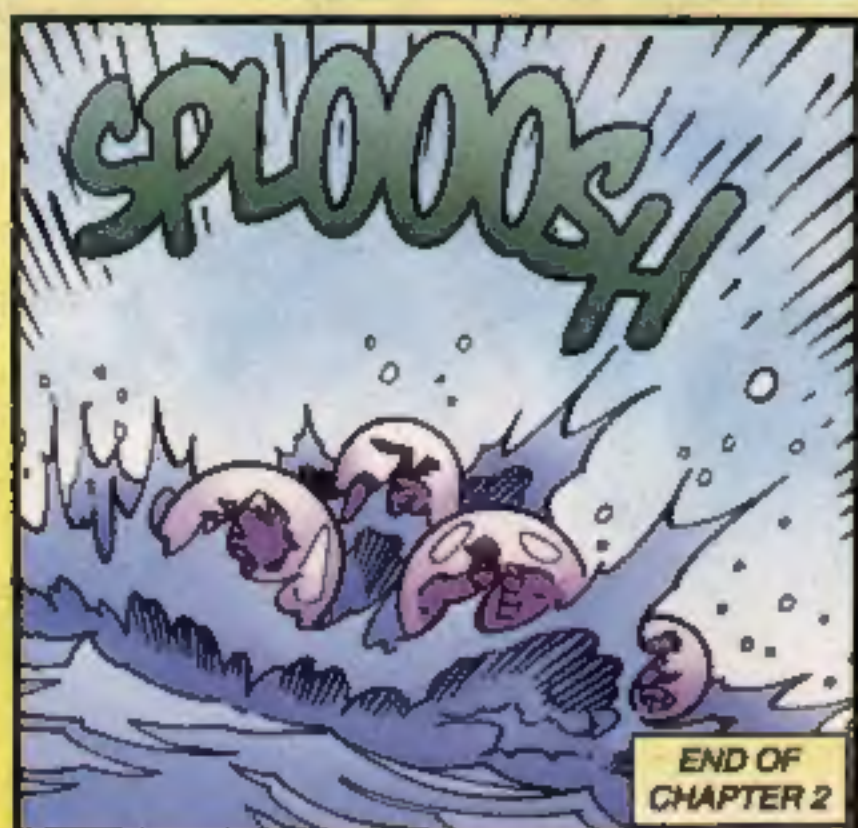
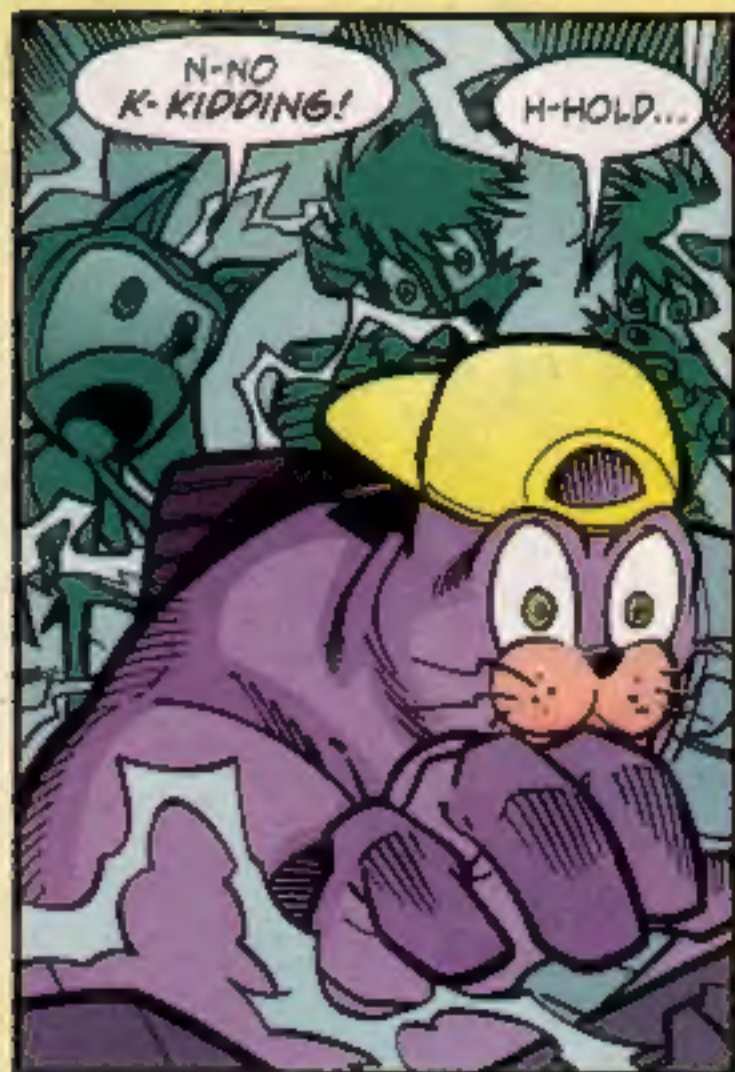
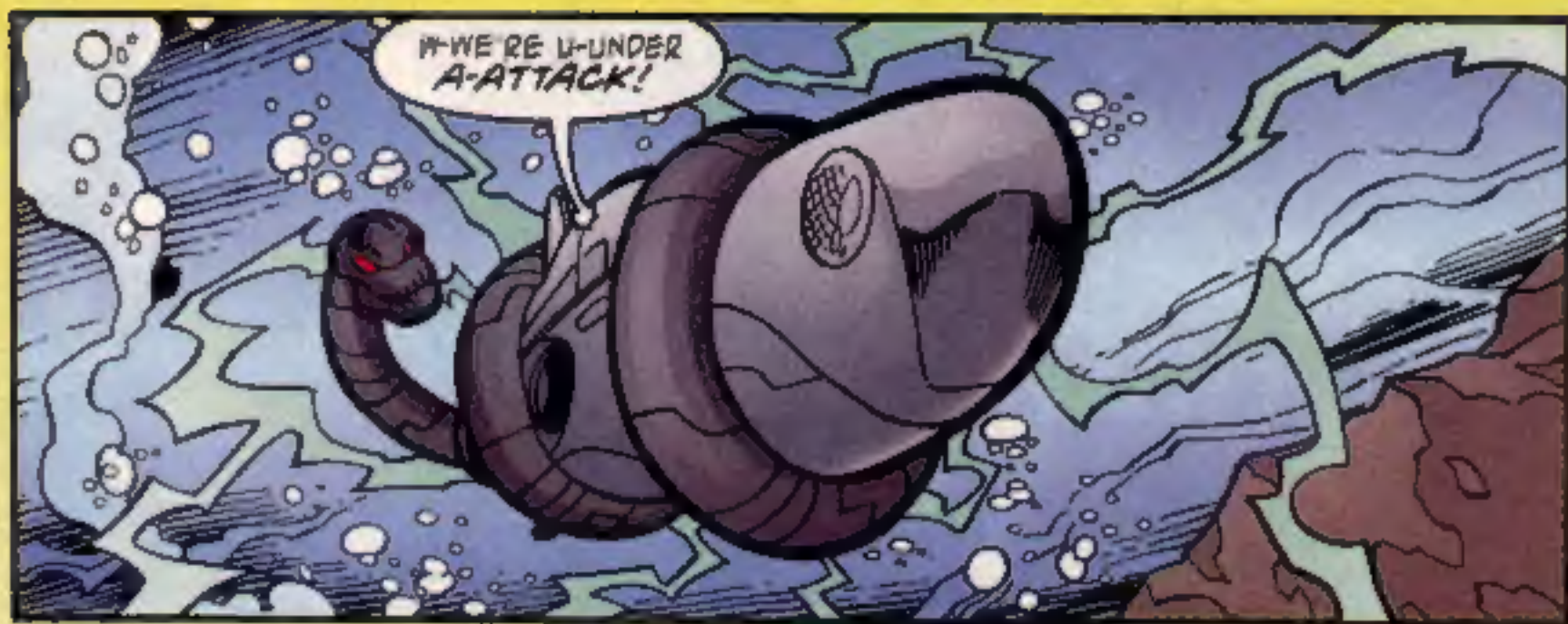
SKRASH!

SNIVELY...ACTIVATE THE
"SEA" CRETE WEAPON!

YES,
DOCTOR
ROBOTNIK!

WOW!
IT'S MILES
LONG!

F-ZAPPAAPT
YEEOWWWTCH!



I HERD IT THROUGH THE PIPELINE

PART 3

HURRY UP
AND FINISH
BUILDING MY
OIL WELL
YOU LOLLY-
GAGGERS!

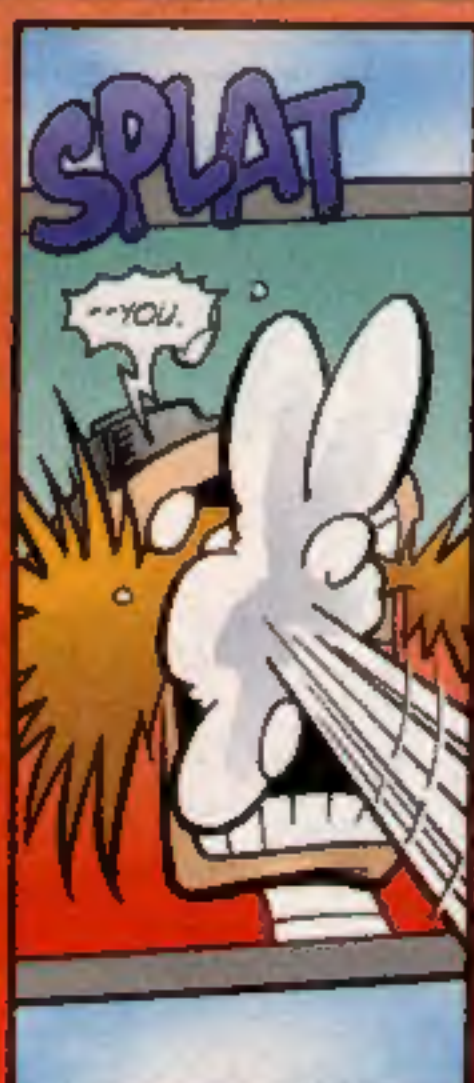
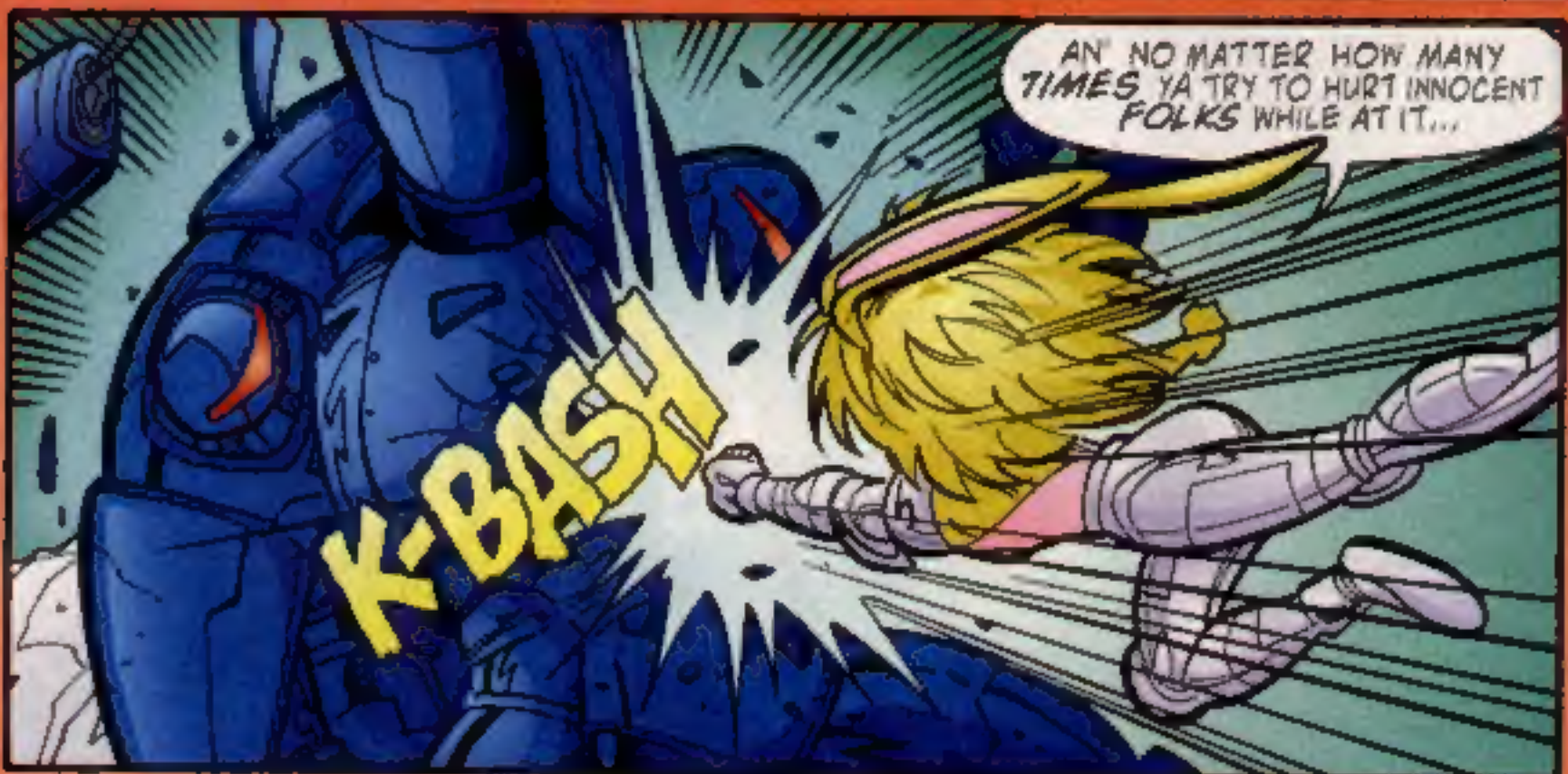
WHY AM
I PAYING YOU?
(OH WAIT--I'M
NOT!)

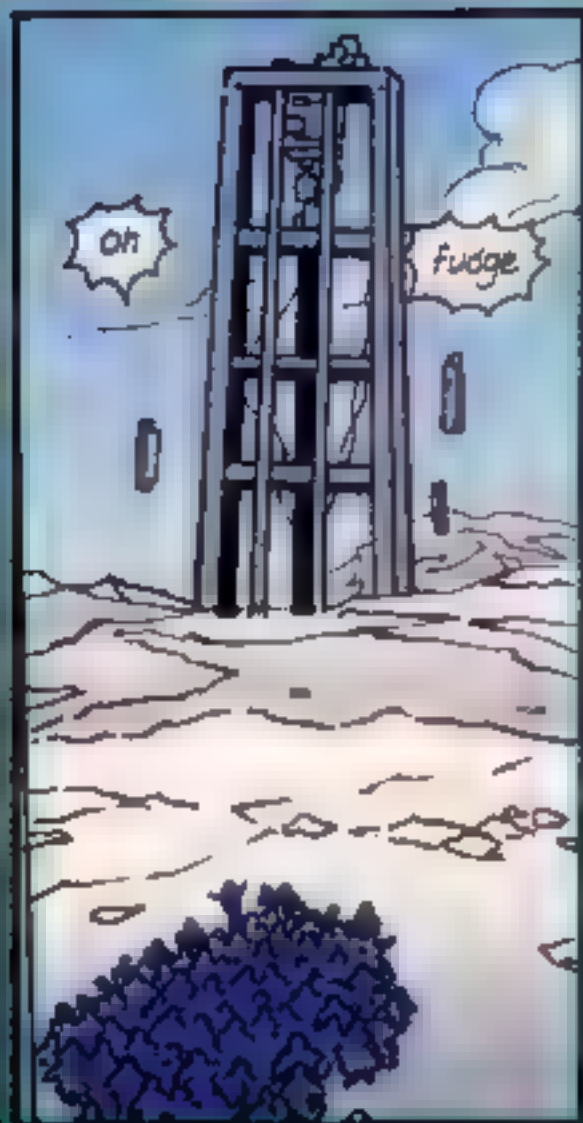
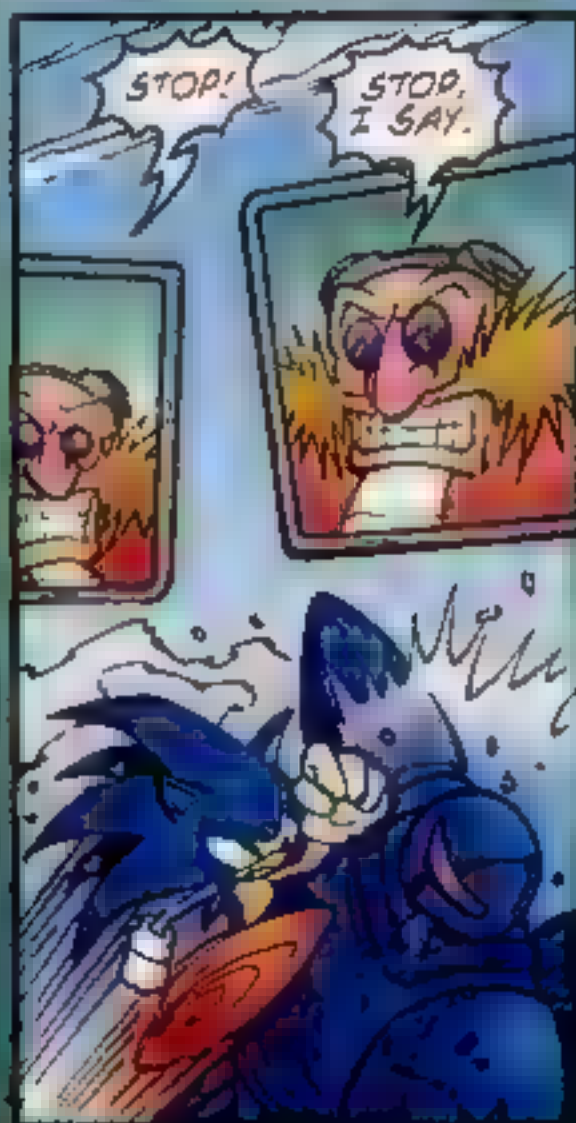
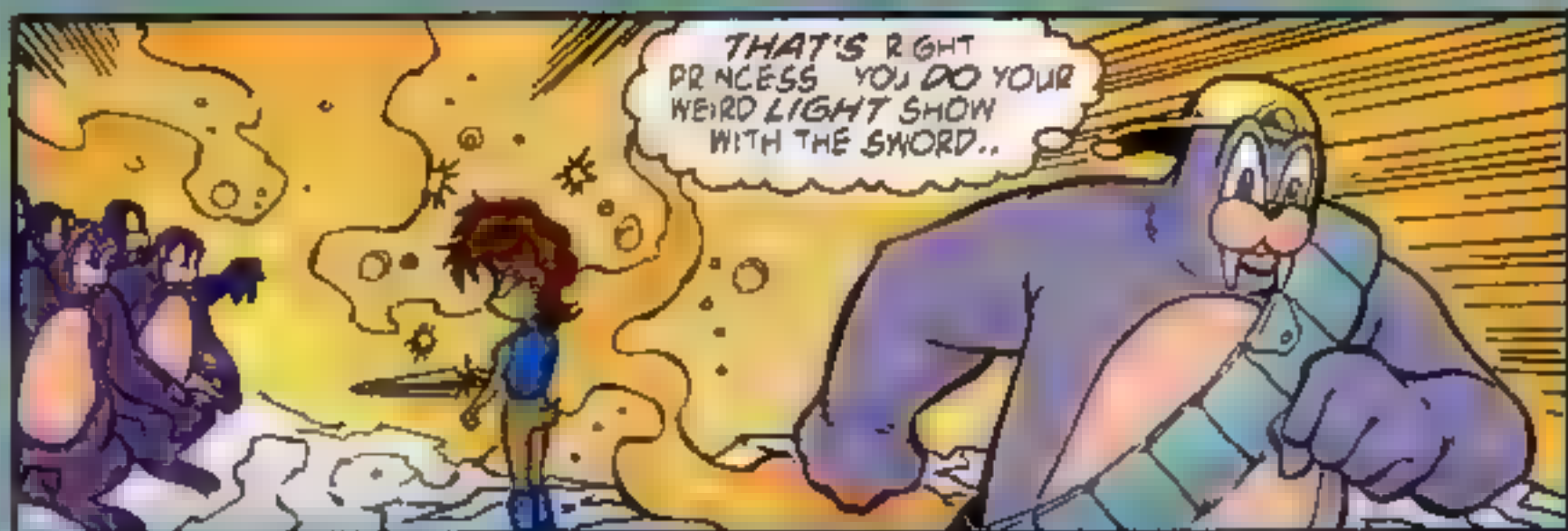
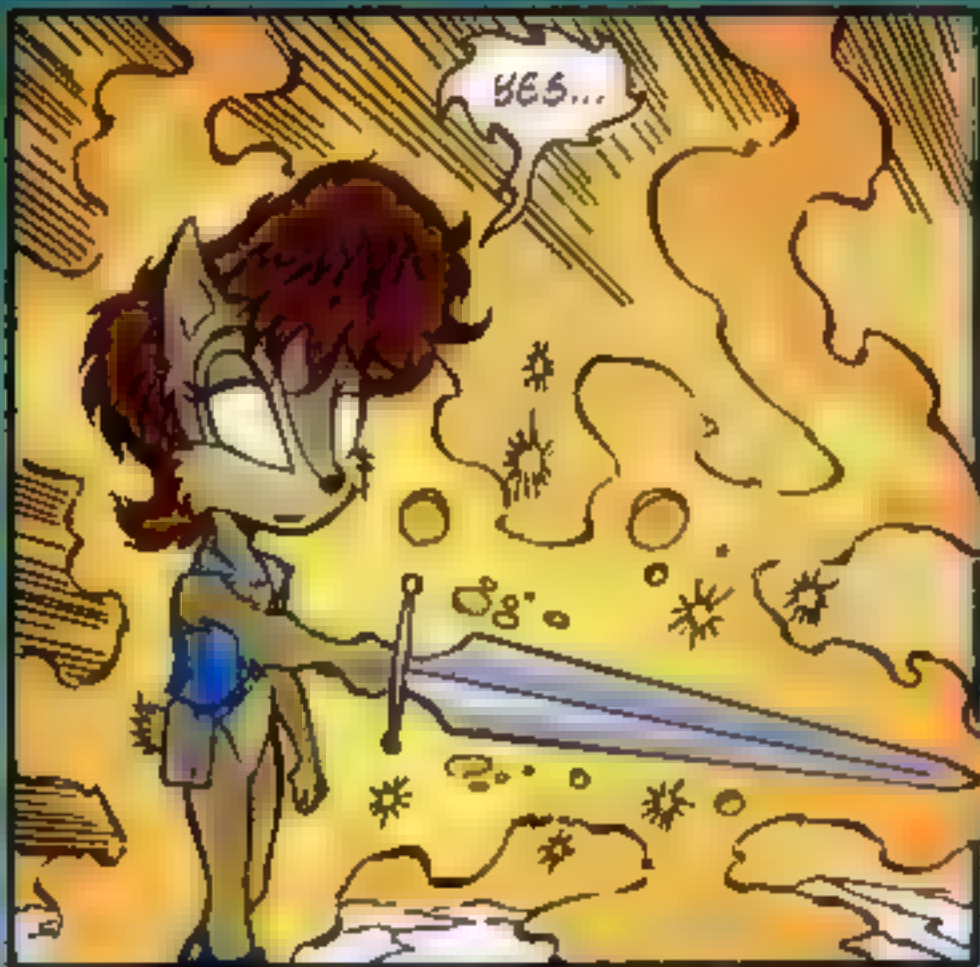
LOOKS
LIKE A JOB FOR
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
AND FRIENDS!

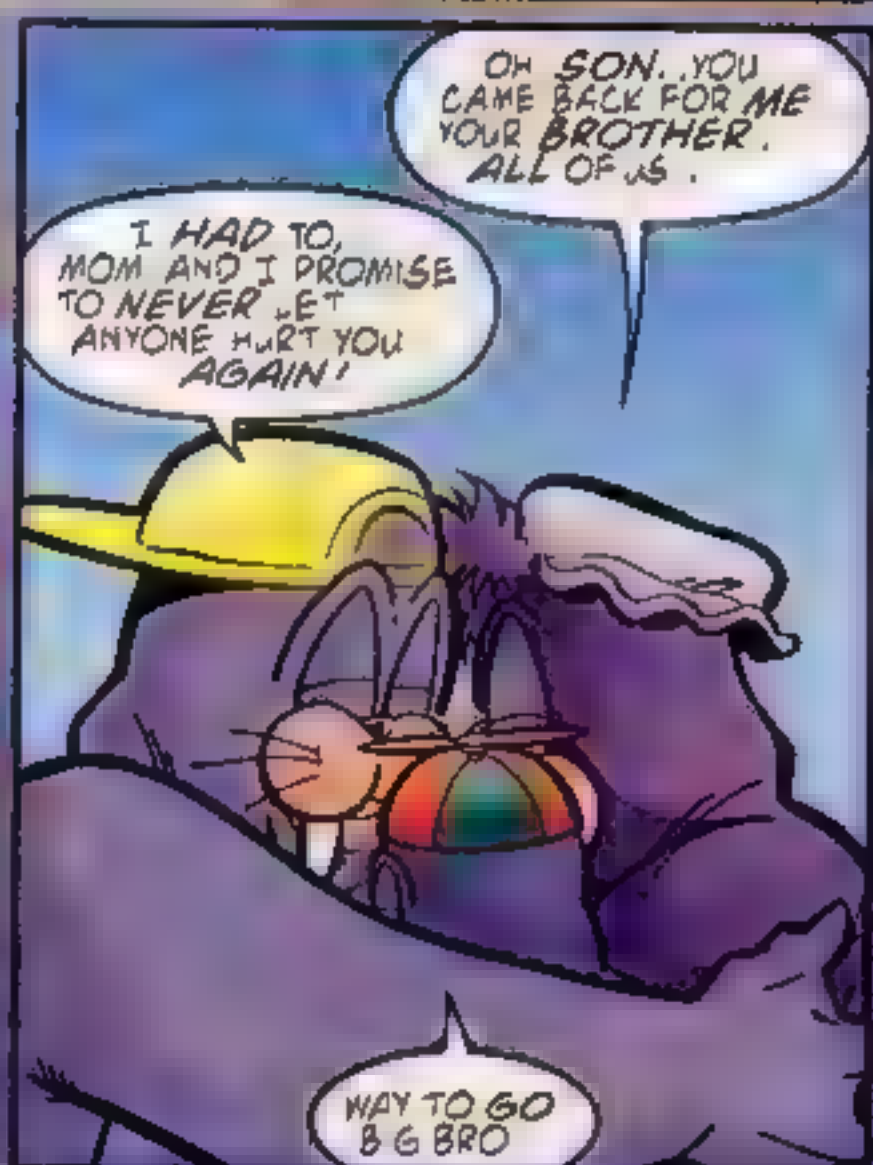
YOUR
HYPNOTIZED HERD
IS DOING ROBOTNIK'S
DIRTY WORK, ROTE!

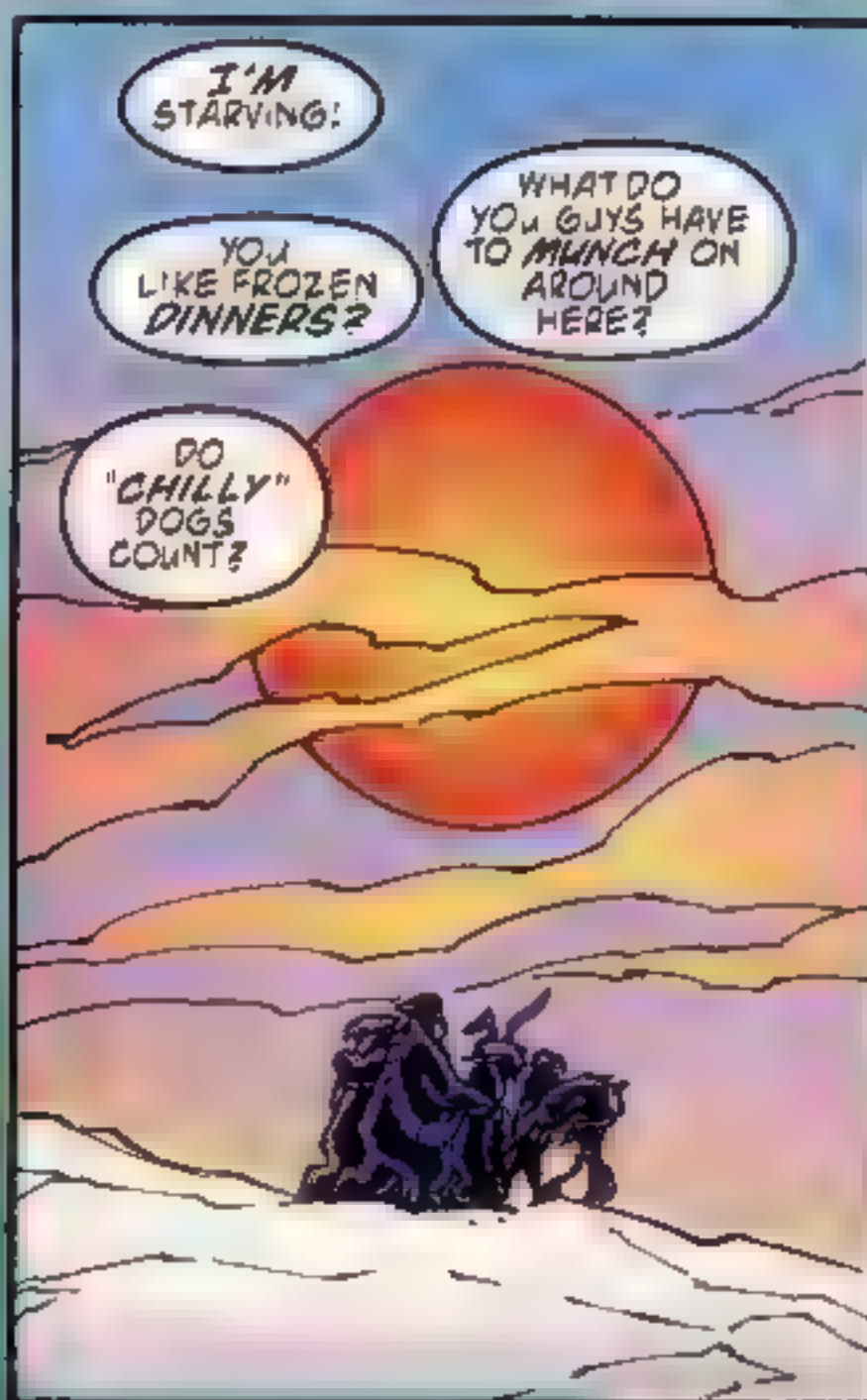
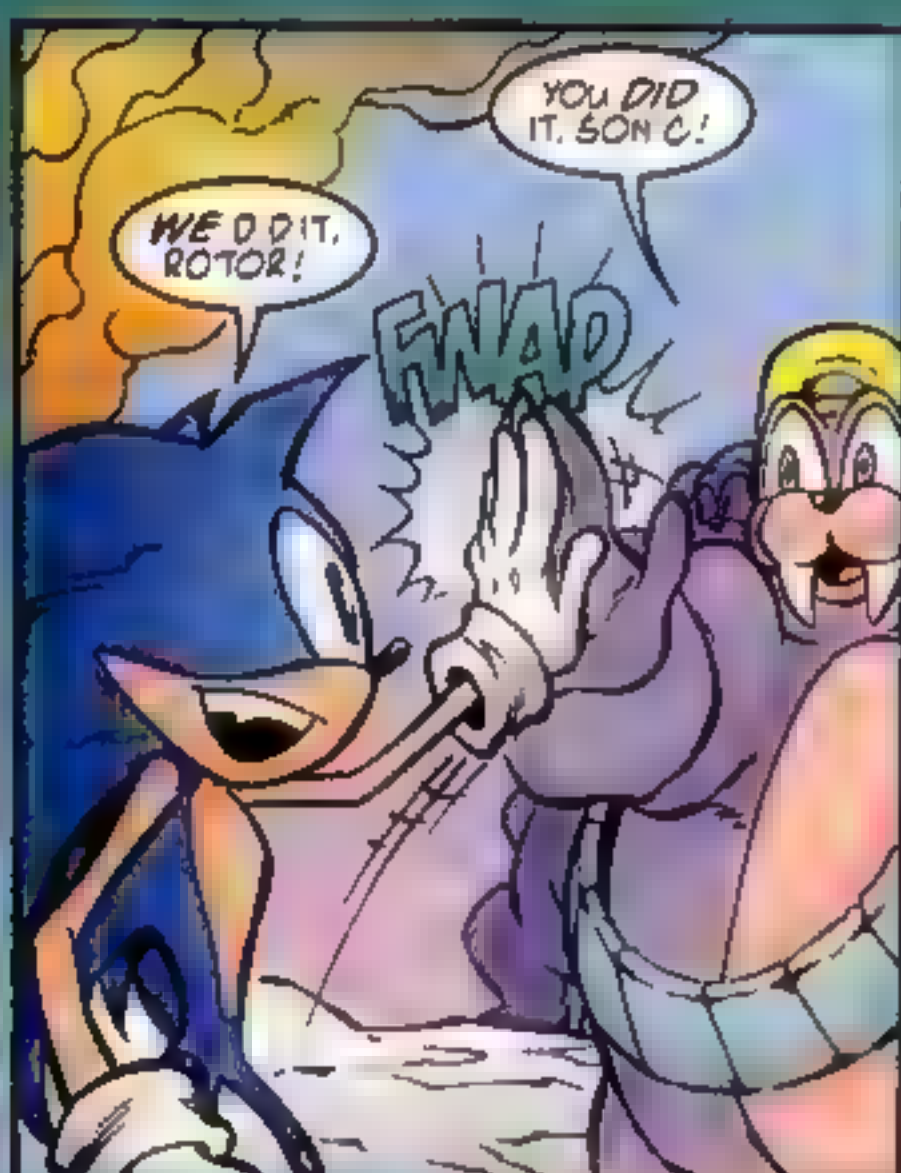
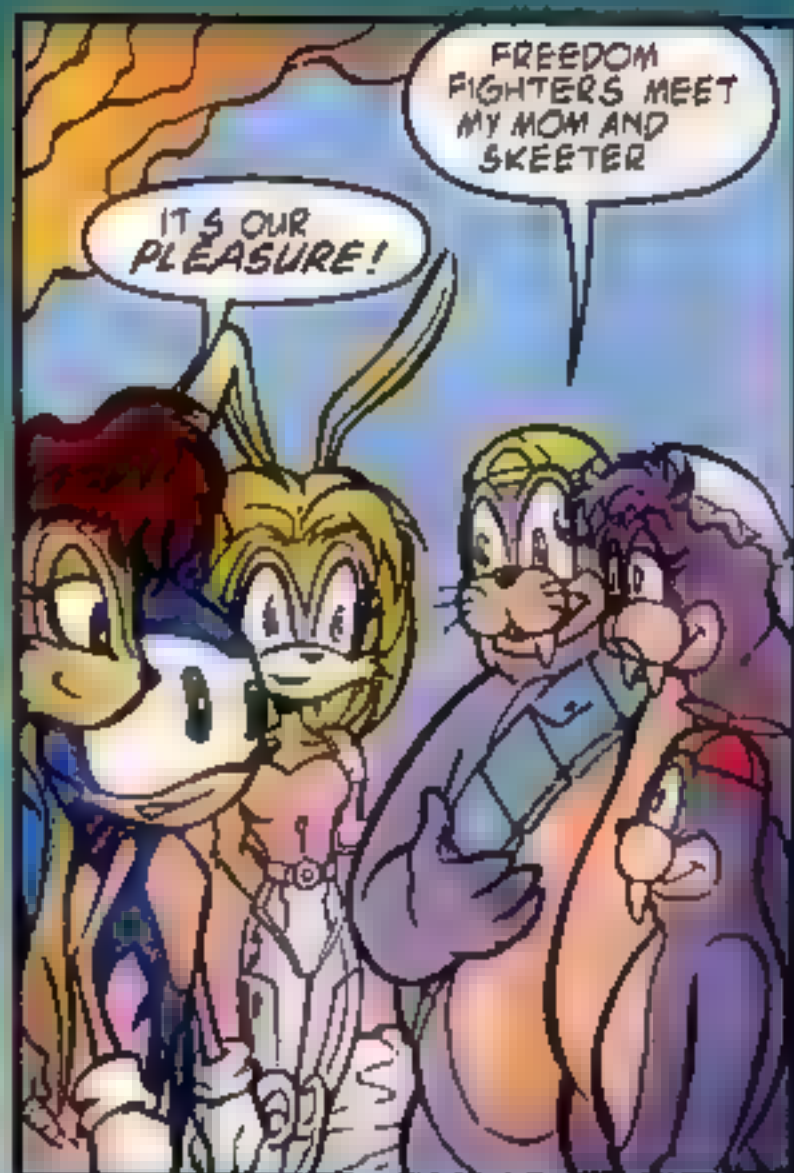
WITH THAT
WRETCHED RODENT
OUT OF THE WAY
I'LL--

OUT OF
THE WAY?
GET REAL
RO'BUTT'NIK!





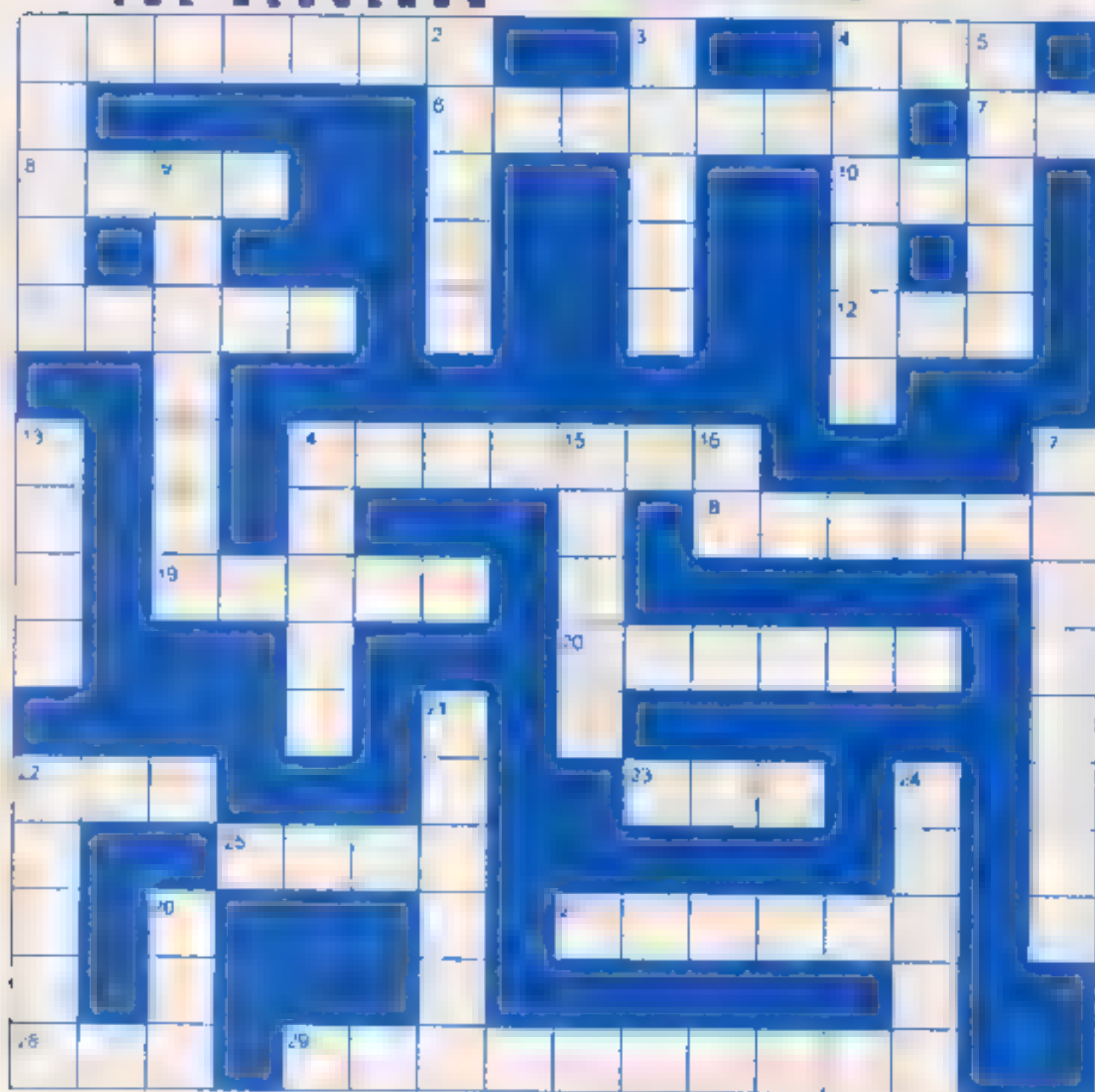




SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 Robotnik's nephew
- 4 Charmy _____
- 6 Bunnie's significant other
- 7 Julie-_____
- 8 _____ the Weasel
- 10 Vector loves to _____
- 11 _____ emerald
- 12 Dr _____ Robotnik
- 14 Edmund's brother
- 18 Geoffrey _____
- 19 Princess _____
- 20 The Dark _____
- 22 Renfield the _____
- 23 _____ Rose
- 25 Vector is one _____
- 27 Bunnie _____
- 28 The Death _____ Saga
- 29 Mobian human

DOWN

- 2 Athair's replacement
- 3 Zone cop
- 4 Sonic's mother
- 5 _____ the chameleon
- 9 Sir _____ Hedgehog
- 13 She led the wolfpack
- 14 _____ the dragon
- 15 Sonic's best friend
- 16 The Floating _____ (abbrev)
- 17 _____ the echidna
- 21 Sally's hand-held friend
- 22 Sally's nanny
- 24 _____ the walrus
- 26 _____ the cat

BET I
CAN FINISH
FIRST!



OKAY, GANG!
IN ANSWER TO
ALL YOUR
REQUESTS--

HERE'S
THE SCOOP
ABOUT MY
FAMILY
TREE!



LARA-SU

WILL
KNUCKLES HAVE
A BROTHER OR
SISTER?

KNUCKLES

JULIE-SU

WYNMACHER

LARA-LE

LOCKE

JENNA-LU

SABRE

ATHAIR

CRYSTAL-LA

JANELLE-LI

SOJOURNER

THUNDER-
HAWK

SPECTRE

VONI-CA

LIEN-DA

KRAGOK

SONJA-RA

HAWKING

MERIN-DA

LUGER

MARI-SU

MATTHIAS

AARON

JORDAN

REMBRANDT

HARLAN

MOON-
WATCHER

STEPPEN-
WOLF

EDMUND

MORITORI
REX

MENNIKER

OWTRI

JORDANN

KAYLA-LA

DON'T FORGET!
THE **BLANK SPACES**
ARE CHARACTERS
WE'VE YET TO
INTRODUCE!



LEST WE FORGET, HERE ARE THE **ANSWERS** TO SONIC #109'S ALTERNATE SONIC PAGE
CLOCKWISE FROM THE TOP - EVIL SONIC FROM SONIC #11, MECHA-SONIC FROM SONIC #26,
ZONIC FROM SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #12, SOLAR SONIC FROM SONIC #71 AND
TERMINATOR SONIC FROM SONIC #11



STEFANO CUNHA
MONTREAL, QC

Why hedgehogs DON'T
wear clothing.....

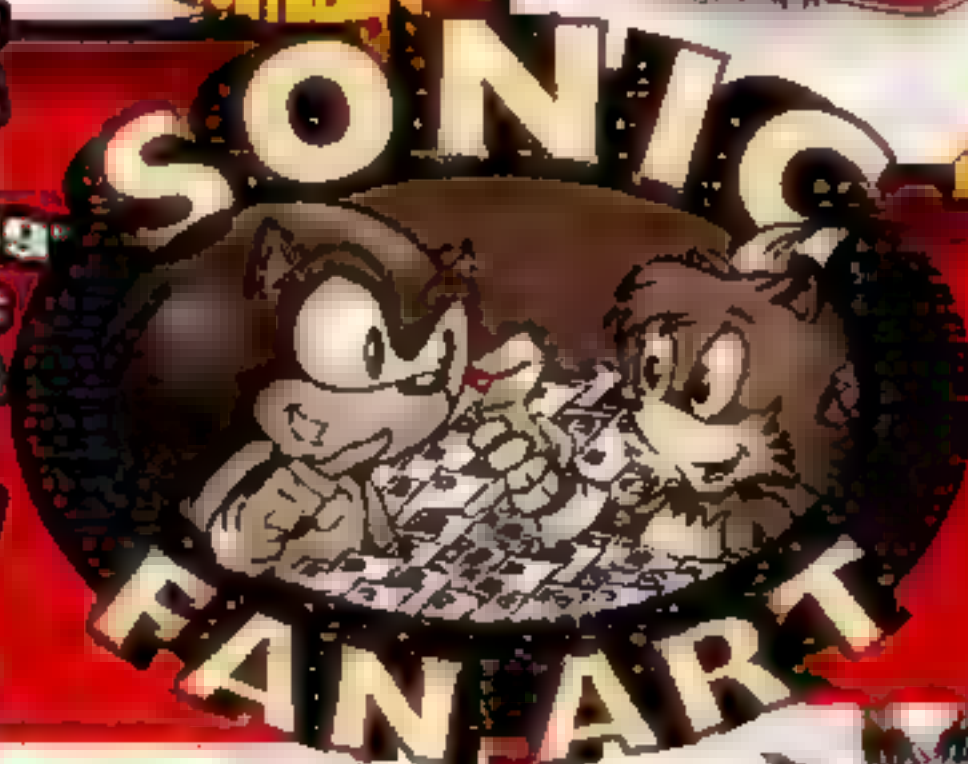


NAME SCHROEDER
LAFAYETTE, WI

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drawing printed,
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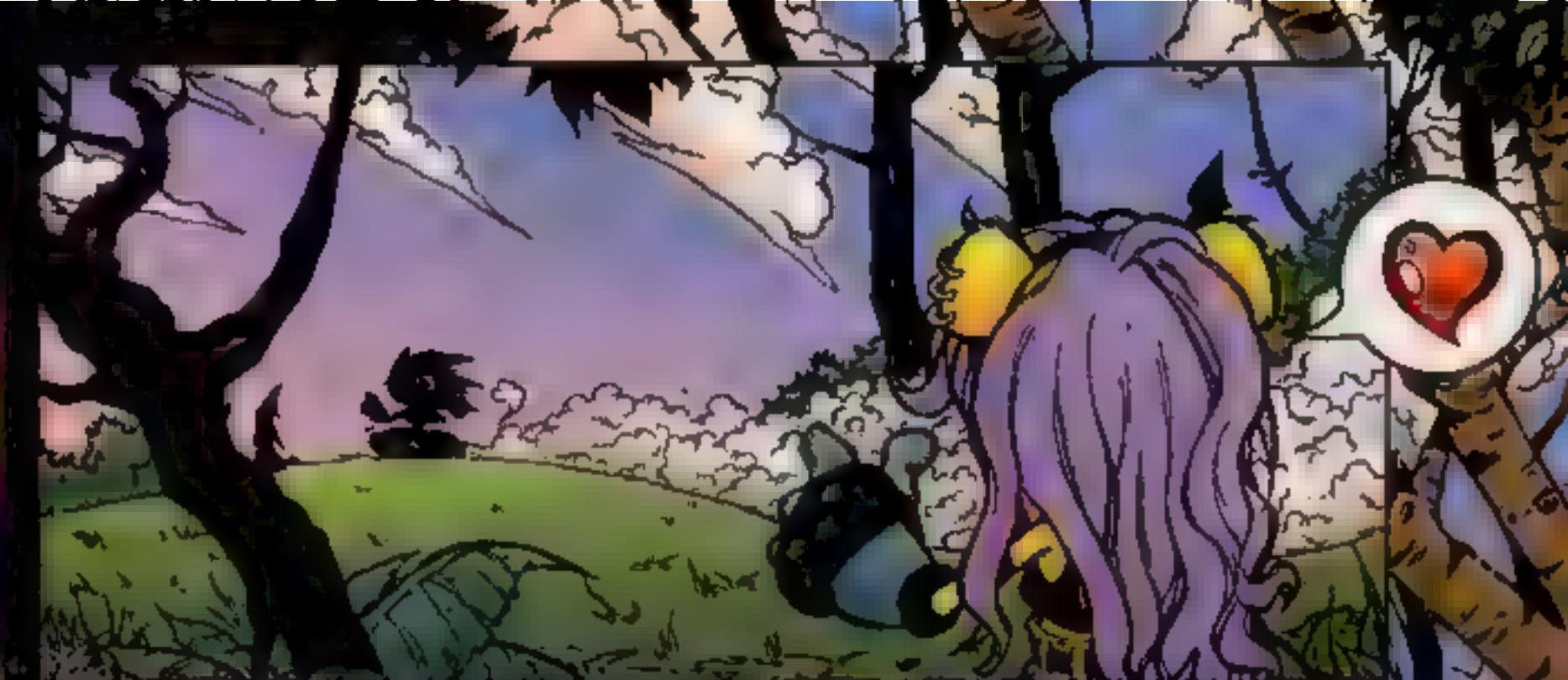
SORRY...
ART WILL NOT
BE RETURNED!



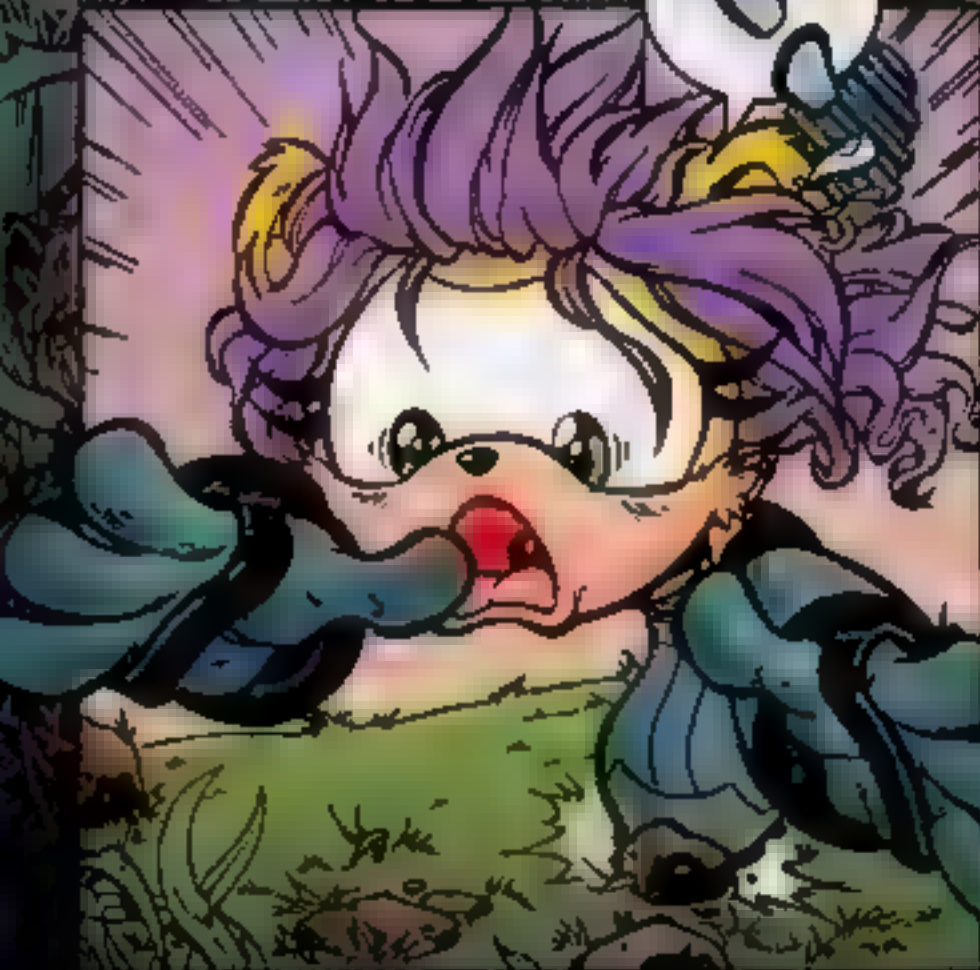
PAUL & DAN LESTER
NEWPORT, VERMONT



TYLER
MORCELL, PA



KARL BOLLERSWRITER
J. AXERPENCILER
ANDREW PEPOY AND PAM EKLUND INKERS
JEFF POWELLLETTERER
JOSH AND AMIEE RAYCOLORISTS
J.F. GABRIÉEDITOR



Mina the Mongoose & Princess Sally ...THE CRUSH!"

PRINCESS?!

BE CAREFUL,
MINA--KEEPING UP
WITH SONIC ISN'T
EASY.

I TRY TO GET
HIS ATTENTION, BUT
IT'S NO USE.

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.
WHAT'S
WRONG?

YOU
SAID
IT!



I EVEN KISSED HIM BUT HE SEEMED MORE SURPRISED THAN PLEASED.

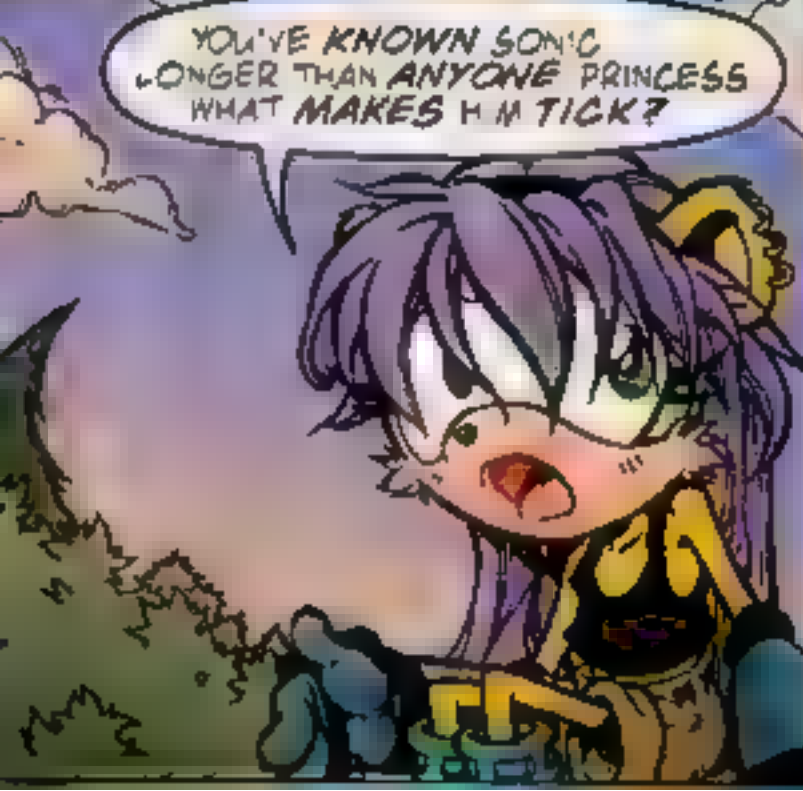
IN SSVE #99



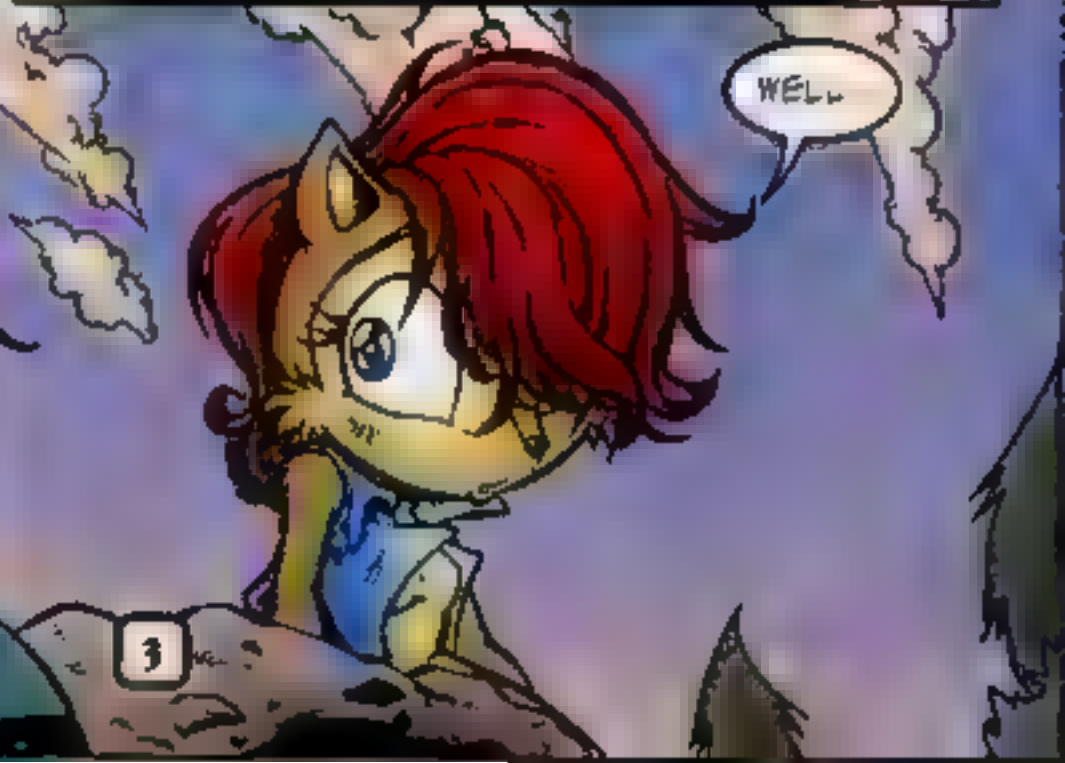
YOU MEAN THAT YOU TWO AREN'T DATING?



AS IF! I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH HIS SPEED OR HIS RUDE-BOY ATTITUDE!



YOU'VE KNOWN SONIC LONGER THAN ANYONE. PRINCESS WHAT MAKES HIM TICK?



WELL...

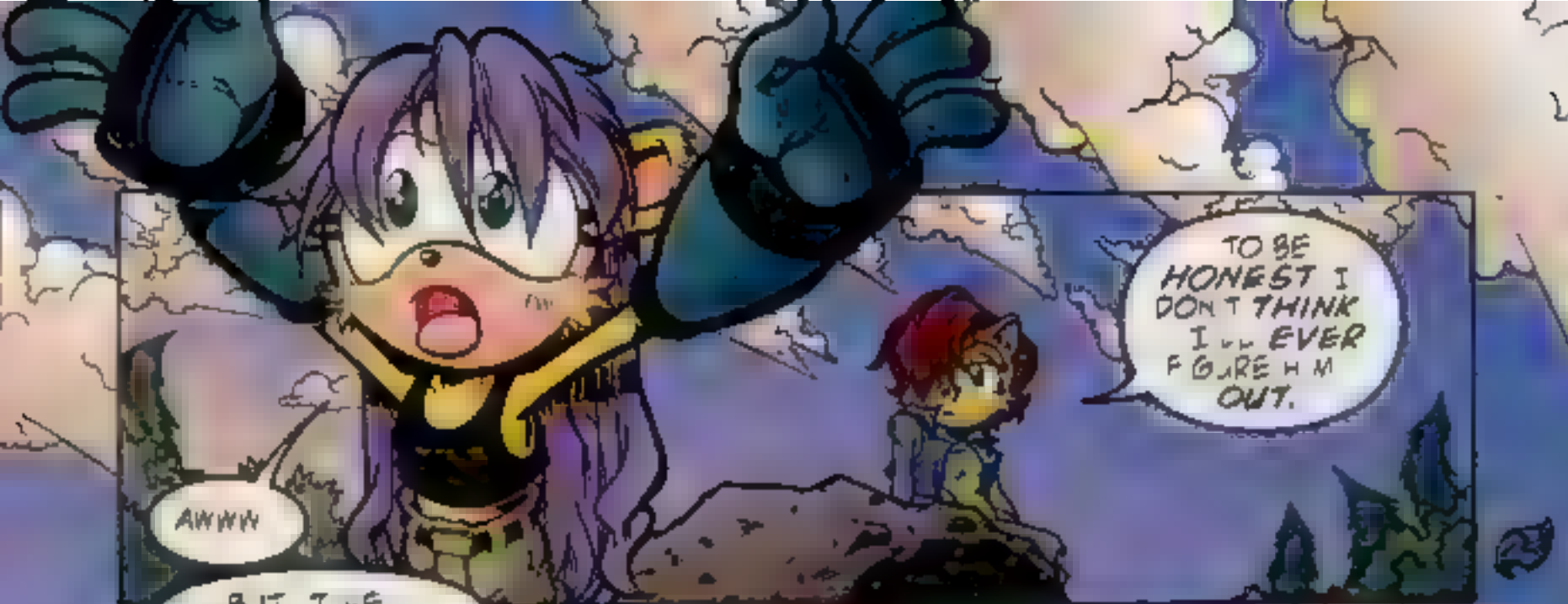
"EVEN THOUGH HE TRIES
TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN LEVEL
OF 'COOL'.

"AT HEART
HE'S A LOVABLE
GOOF WHO
LOVES HIS FAMILY
AND FRIENDS
DEARLY.

"YOU CAN ALWAYS
COUNT ON HIM
TO COME
THROUGH IN A
TIGHT SPOT.

HE'S ALL
FOR SPEAKING
HIS MIND
AND STANDING
UP FOR WHAT HE
BELIEVES

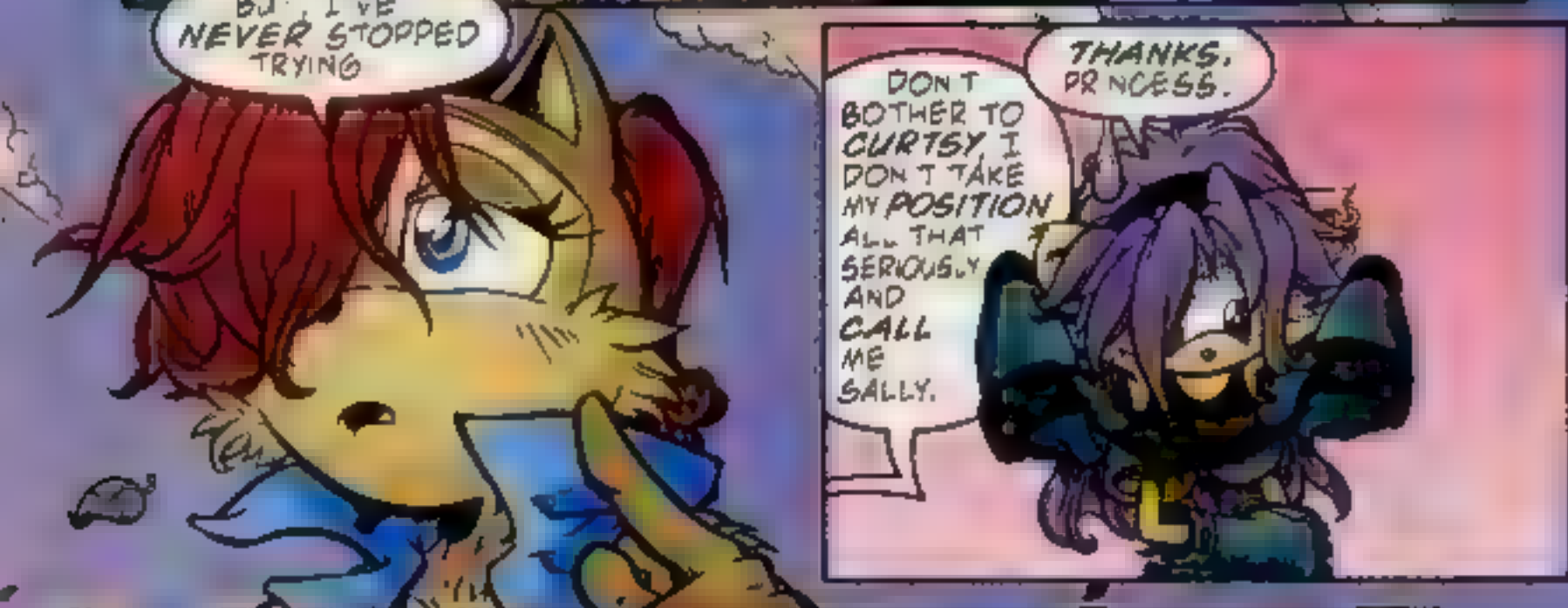
"AND WELL
HE REALLY
CARES"



AWWW

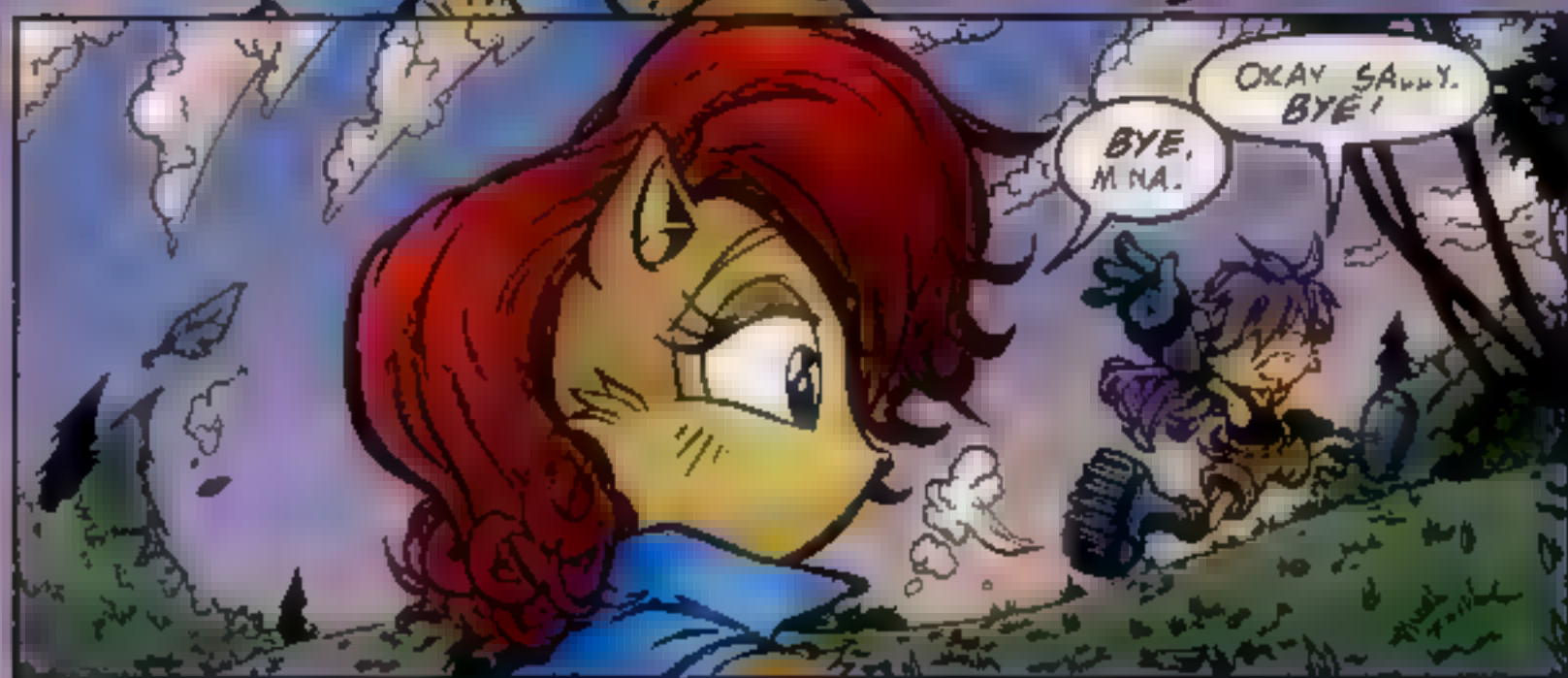
BUT I'VE
NEVER STOPPED
TRYING

TO BE
HONEST I
DON'T THINK
I'LL EVER
FIGURE HIM
OUT.



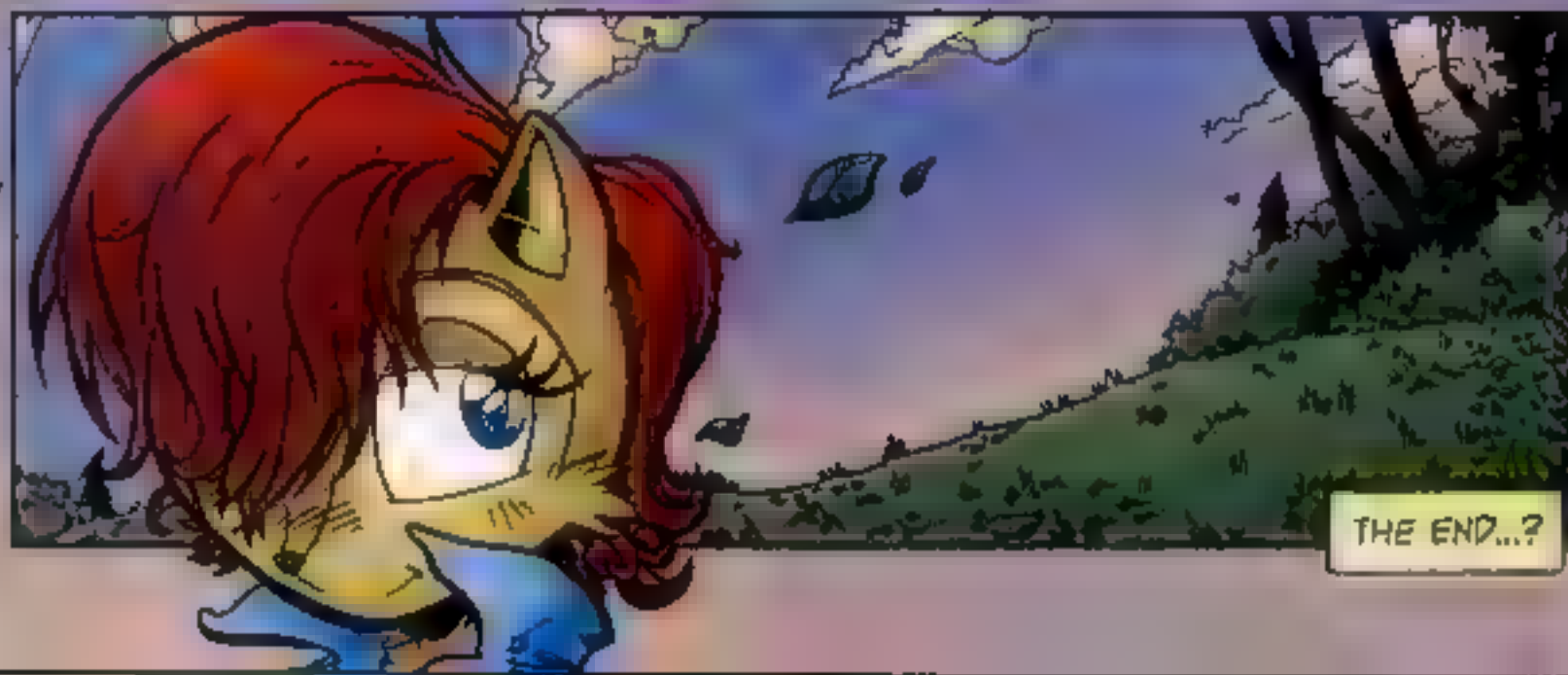
DON'T
BOTHR TO
CURTSY I
DON'T TAKE
MY POSITION
ALL THAT
SERIOUSLY
AND
CALL
ME
SALLY.

THANKS,
PRINCESS.



OKAY SALLY.
BYE!

BYE,
MAMA.



THE END...?

FREEZE FRAME A
MOMENT IN TIME AS

KNUCKLES ECHIDNA

OH NO!
YOU
WON'T KILL
HIM THIS TIME,
REMINGTON!

HURTLES HIS BODY
BETWEEN ONCOMING
DEATH AND ITS INTENDED
TARGET, THE LEGENDARY
DIMITRI, LEADER OF THE
DARK LEGION, WHO ONLY
MOMENTS BEFORE HAD
BEEN ADDRESSING THE
HIGH COUNCILORS IN
THIS VERY CHAMBER --

-- BEFORE ONE OF THEM
DECIDED ON THEIR OWN
TO RESPOND IN SUCH A
DRASTIC MANNER!

REUNIFICATION THE CONCLUSION

AND IF YOU NEED ANYMORE TO GO ON --

KEN PENDERS DAWN BEST VICKIE WILLIAMS JOSH & AIMEE RAY JUSTIN GABRIE
SCRIPT, LAYOUTS & INKS PENCILS LETTERER COLORISTS EDITOR

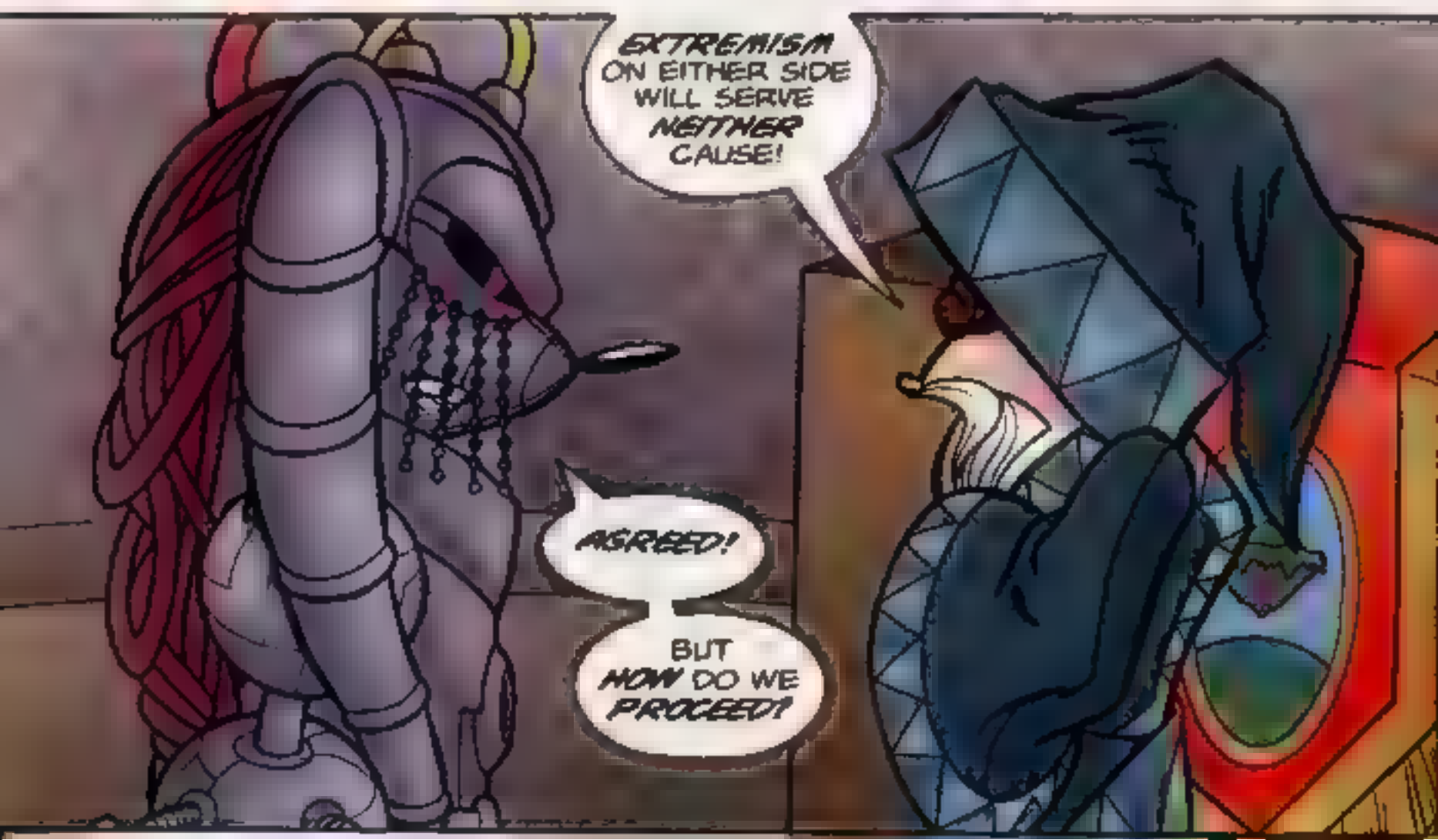
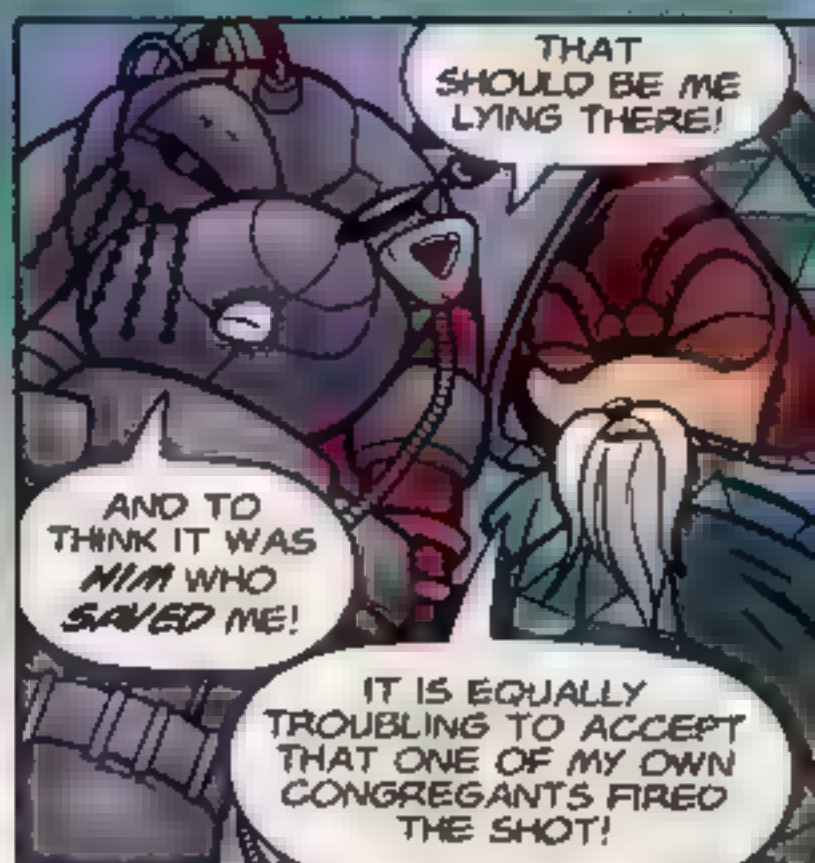
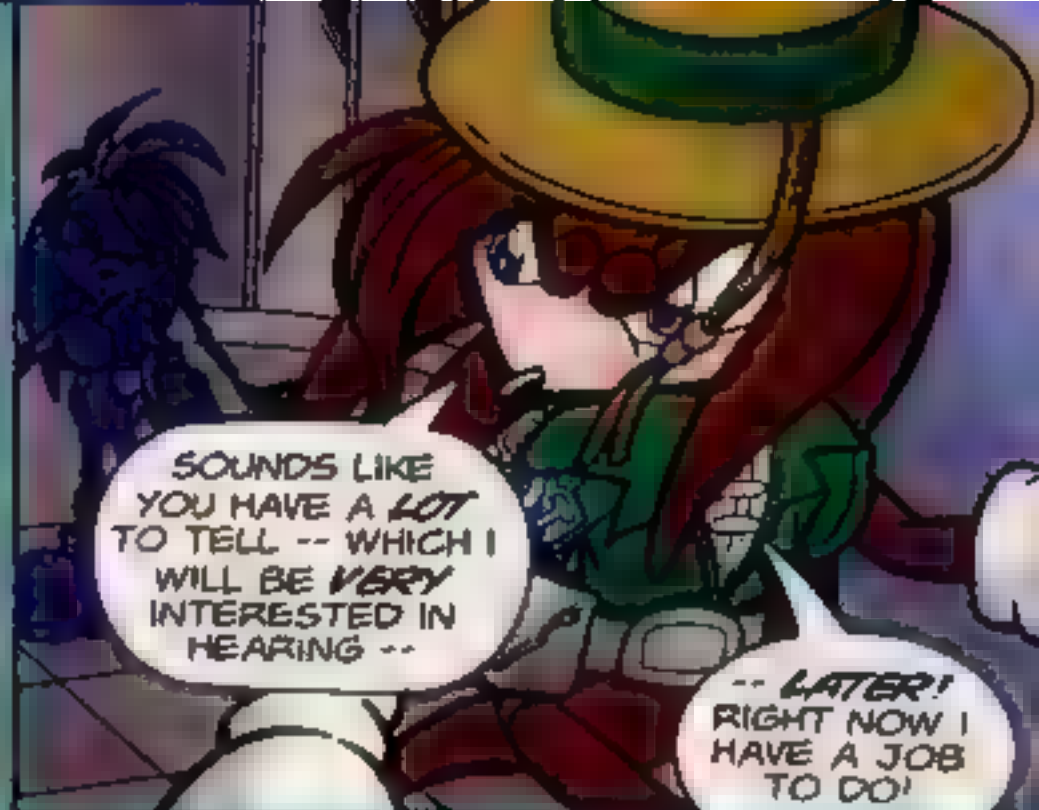
-- WILL FILL IN THE BLANKS AS ANOTHER CHAPTER OF EVERYONE'S FAVORITE ECHIDNA NOW UNFOLDS!

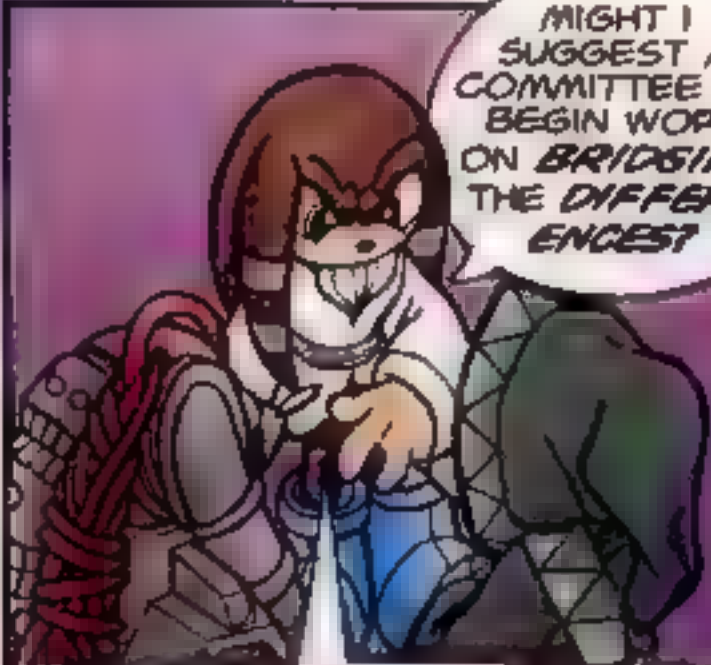
ARE YOU
MAD?!

WHAT IN
AURORA'S NAME
DO YOU THINK
YOU'RE DOING?!!

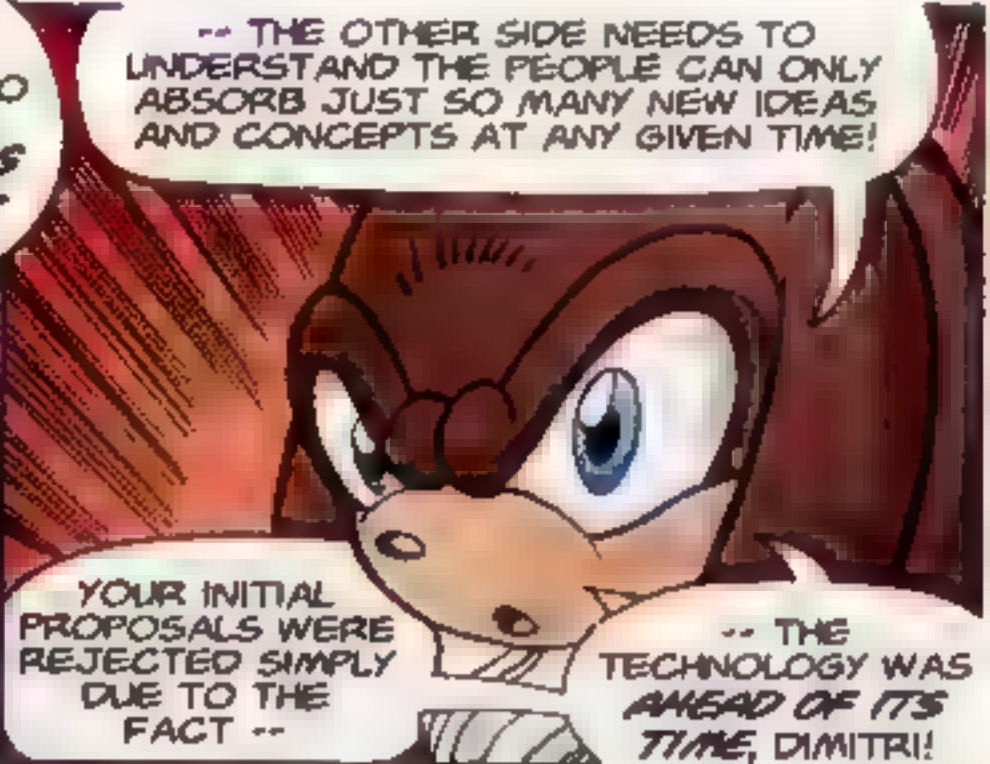
NO!
NO!!

I FAILED!! I
STILL WASN'T
ABLE TO SAVE
DAD!!!





MIGHT I
SUGGEST A
COMMITTEE TO
BEGIN WORK
ON *BRIDGING*
THE *DIFFER-*
ENCES?



-- THE OTHER SIDE NEEDS TO
UNDERSTAND THE PEOPLE CAN ONLY
ABSORB JUST SO MANY NEW IDEAS
AND CONCEPTS AT ANY GIVEN TIME!

YOUR INITIAL
PROPOSALS WERE
REJECTED SIMPLY
DUE TO THE
FACT --

-- THE
TECHNOLOGY WAS
AHEAD OF ITS
TIME, DIMITRI!

AS ONE SIDE STRIVES TO REC-
OGNIZE NOT ALL TECHNOLOGY IS
A DETRIMENT TO OUR PEOPLE --



IF YOU HAD GIVEN OTHERS A CHANCE TO STUDY YOUR
METHODS FIRST, ALL THIS MAY HAVE BEEN *AVOIDED!*

WELL, I CAN'T WAIT IF I HOPE TO
SALVAGE ANYTHING FROM THIS *MESS!*



IF THE CONSTABLE
GETS MY *HIRED GUN* TO
TALK, EVEN I MIGHT NOT
BE ABLE TO AVOID THE
CONSEQUENCES!



I'M NOT SURE I AGREE, BUT
THAT'S A DISCUSSION FOR
ANOTHER TIME!

CUT TO JUST OUTSIDE THE BUILD-
ING WHERE WE FIND *LARA-SU*...



HOW COULD
I *MESS UP* SO
BAD?

IF *DAD*
WASN'T KILLED BY
THE CONSTABLE
LIKE *MOM* TOLD
ME --

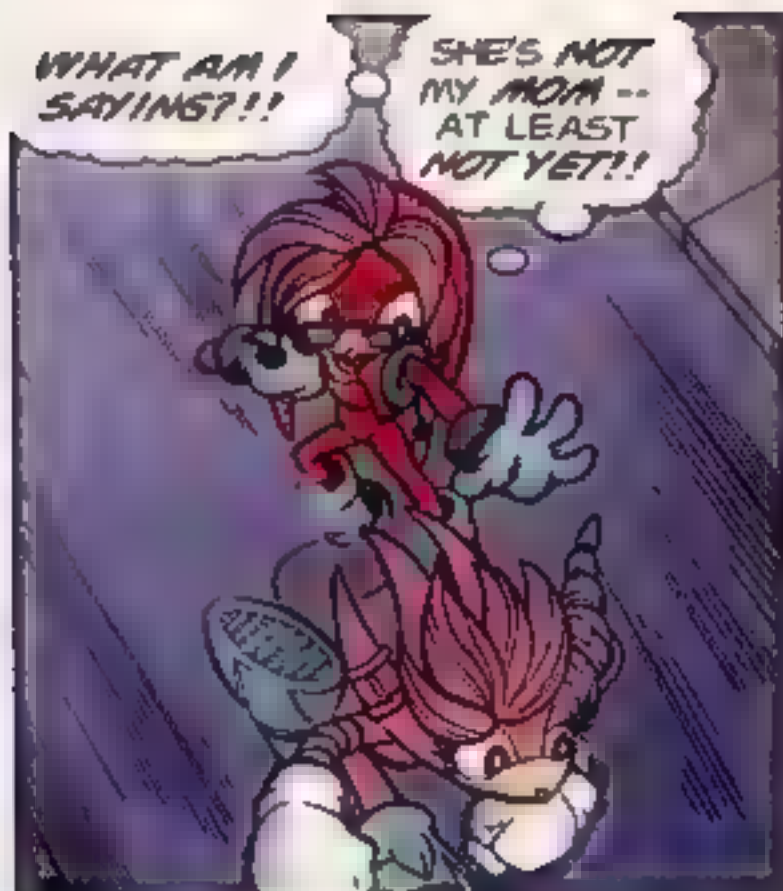


-- THEN
WHAT *REALLY*
HAPPENED?



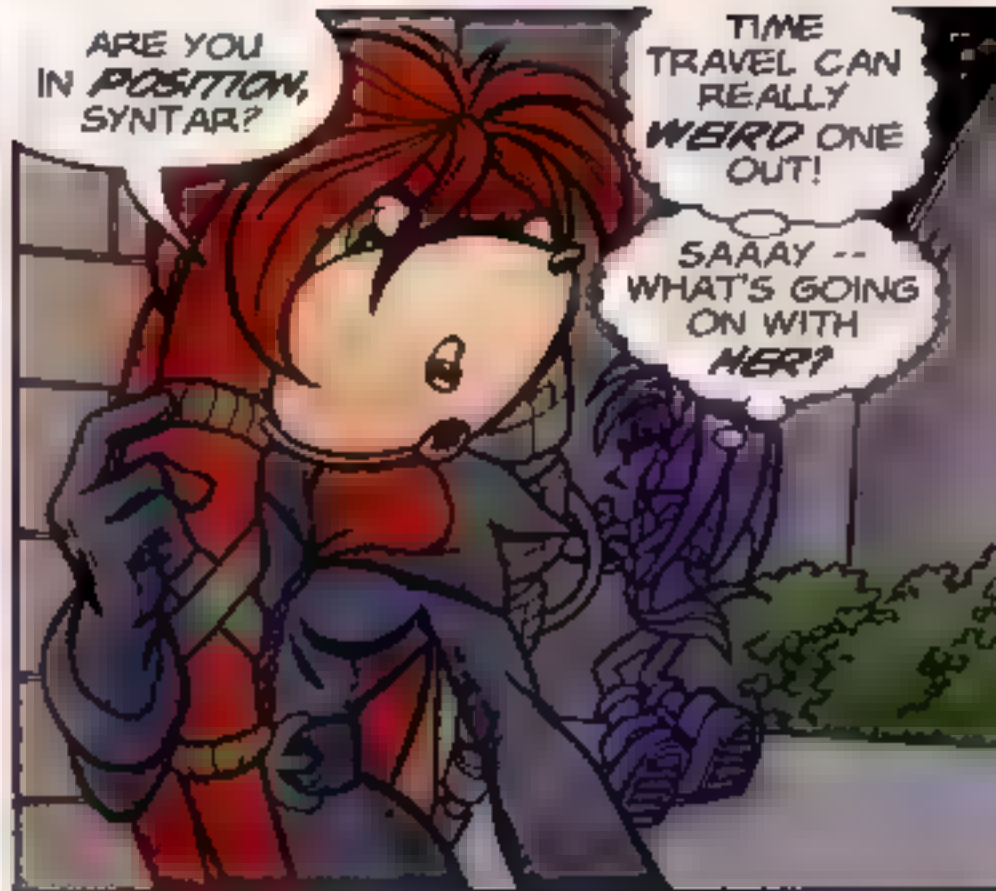
MAYBE *MOM*
HAS *MORE* TO
SAY THAN SHE
TOLD ME!

SPEAKING
OF WHICH --



WHAT AM I SAYING?!!

SHE'S NOT MY MOM -- AT LEAST NOT YET!!



ARE YOU IN POSITION, SYNTAR?

TIME TRAVEL CAN REALLY WEIRD ONE OUT!

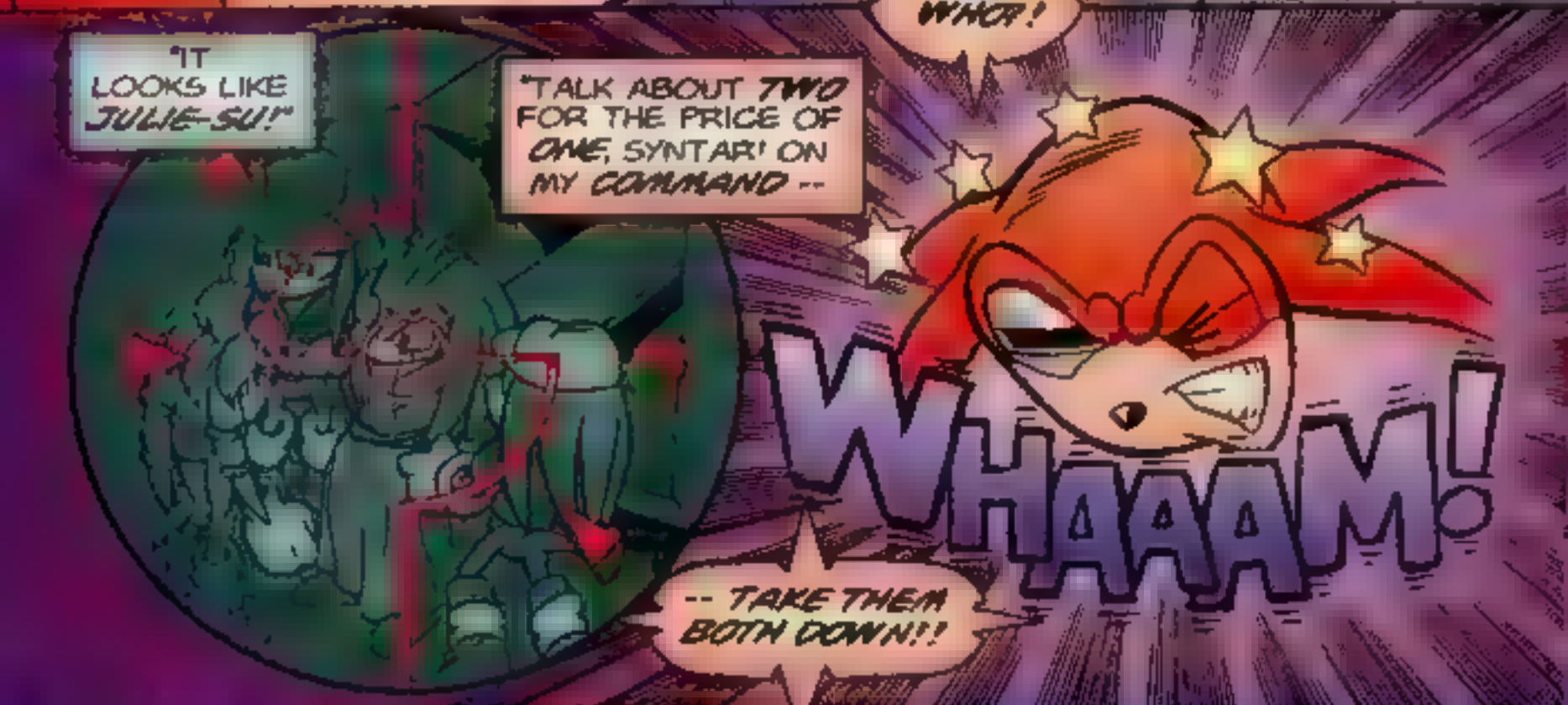
SAAAY -- WHAT'S GOING ON WITH HER?



JUST SAY THE WORD, KOMMISSAR, AND IT'LL BE OVER AND OUT FOR OUR PIGEON!

HOLD IT! ONE OF OUR OWN JUST ENTERED THE PICTURE!

ONE OF OUR -- WHO?

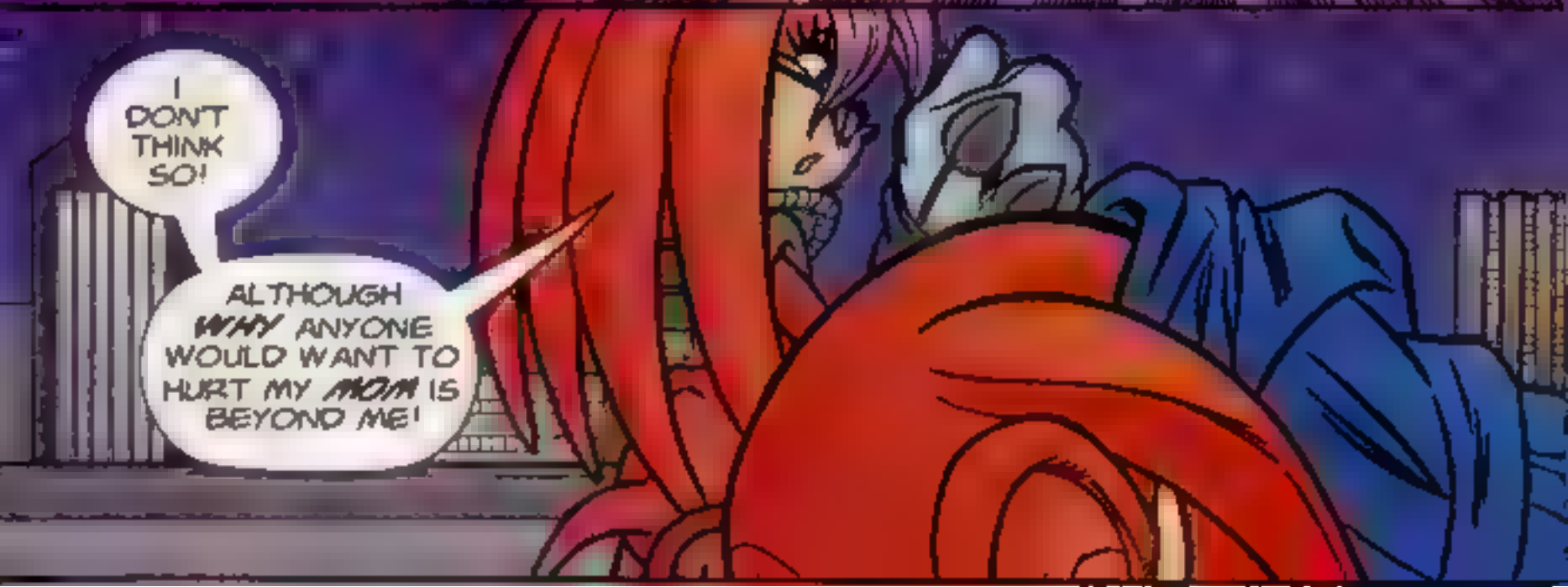


"IT LOOKS LIKE JULIE-SU!"

"TALK ABOUT TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE, SYNTAR! ON MY COMMAND --

-- TAKE THEM BOTH DOWN!!

WHAAAM!



I DON'T THINK SO!

ALTHOUGH WHY ANYONE WOULD WANT TO HURT MY MOM IS BEYOND ME!

AND MAYBE
THIS IS WHY MY
NEVER TALK
ABOUT WHEN I
WAS YOUNGER

**OH NO! I CAN'T GO
BACK TO THE FUTURE
NOW!!! IT'S TOO
SOOOOONNNNNN!!!!**



KNUCKLES!
YOU'RE ALIVE!

IT BEATS DYING!



I WAS JUST WAITING FOR THINGS TO CHILL BEFORE SPEAKING UP!

YOU MEAN
YOU WERE
PRETENDING ALL
THIS TIME YOU
WERE **DEAD?**

-- SO I TOOK
THE **HIT** IN
ORDER TO WIN
YOUR **TRUST?**

YOU
TOLD
TO

BUT WHY?

YOU'RE A
TOUGH NUT
TO CRACK --

-- SO I TOOK THE HIT IN ORDER TO WIN YOUR TRUST!

NOW THAT EVERYONE'S WILLING TO DEAL, THE ONLY WORRY YOU HAVE IS THE TRAITOR IN YOUR GROUP!

A TRAITOR?
IN THE DARK
LESION?!

BUT
WHO?

BUT WHAT?

TOO SOON
TO SAY FOR
SURE!

MOM!

MOM!

OVER HERE,
LARA-SU!

YOU'RE
CRYING, DEAR!
WHAT'S
WRONG?

EVERYTHING!

IT'S --
IT'S DAD!

I WENT BACK
IN TIME AND I
FAILED TO
SAVE HIM!

I THOUGHT YOU SAID CONSTABLE REMINGTON WAS THE ONE WHO KILLED HIM, MOM --

-- BUT IT WAS REALLY *SOMEONE ELSE!*

THAT'S NOT
POSSIBLE,
DARLING!

YOU MUST HAVE EXPER-
IENCED AN *ALTERNATE*
REALITY!

I *SAW* IT
WITH *MY*
OWN EYES,
MOM!

SAY WHAT?

YOUR
FATHER
KNUCKLES IS
VERY MUCH
ALIVE!

IN OUR REALITY'S HISTORY, YOUR FATHER
WENT BERSERK UPON ABSORBING SO
MUCH *CHAOS ENERGY!* THE ECHIDNA I
ONCE KNEW AS KNUCKLES BECAME THE
EVIL THAT IS CURRENTLY LEADING THE
DARK LEGION INTO CONQUERING THE
ENTIRE PLANET --

NOW THAT YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO
ACCEPT WHAT YOUR FATHER HAS
BECOME, YOU CAN HELP ME *STOP*
HIM FROM TRYING TO TAKE OVER THE
FLOATING ISLAND ONCE *AGAIN!*

-- SO I THOUGHT
IT BEST TO
SHIELD YOU
FROM THE
TRUTH AND LET
YOU BELIEVE HE
WAS DEAD!

BUT, AS CLIFFHANGERS GO, THAT IS A STORY
FOR ANOTHER DAY. BACK IN OUR OWN
REALITY, *KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA* WILL
RETURN IN SONIC #114 AS *KNUX*, *DIMITRI*,
AND *LIEN-DA* DO BATTLE FOR *ULTIMATE*
POWER! THIS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

Well, fans, Did you get a kick out this month's lead story guest-starring Rotor's mom and little brother? Was the long-overdue talk between Princess Sally and Mina in our middle story everything you expected? Does our ongoing Knuckles back-up leave you looking forward to more mind-blowing echidna intrigue every time? Don't hesitate to write us (snail or e-mail will do the trick) here at Archie Comics. We know how seriously you take your SONIC THE HEDGEHOG comic book reading experience, and we want to make sure it's worth it every time!

Anyone who was lucky enough to scan our last editorial, saw the first of a 3-part interview focusing on the next generation of SONIC creators. This month, we bring you the second part, briefly shedding some light on the penciler responsible for the lovingly detailed illustrations seen in this issue's 'The Crush':

THE SONIC THE HEDGEHOG INTERVIEWS PART 2: J. AXER

KARL BOLLERS: So how did you get the monthly assignment of penciling the middle story in SONIC THE HEDGEHOG?

J. AXER: My work was presented to the editor/art director Justin Gabrie by Karl Bollers [who writes the middle story- A].

KB: Which version of Sonic is your favorite? The game version? The weekday cartoon version? The Saturday morning cartoon version? The comic book version?

J.: A like all types for various reasons, actually. I'm not overly picky as to like only one version of Sonic, however I suppose the game version would appeal to me the most.

KB: Who is your favorite Sonic character?

J.: A don't have a specific favorite, actually.

KB: Who is your least favorite Sonic character?

J.: A suppose that would be Rotor (Ha ha, I should dodge the flying objects now, right?).

KB: You penciled this issue's 'The Crush.' Who's the right girl for Sonic in your opinion? Princess Sally or Mina the Mongoose?

J.: A If I had to choose between Sally and Mina, I would say Sally (time to dodge again). However, if I had the option to do so, I'd say neither Sally nor Mina (I guess this time I should run for my life!).

That's all the time and space we have for now, kids and kiddies, but be here in two months for the stunning conclusion to our 3-part creator interview. And here you were, thinking all of the good stuff only took place in our stories!

Next month, Justin takes back his editorial for an issue to update us on things to come. But for now, it's Ken's turn with your letters... See ya!

NOTE: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited.

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KB

COMING ATTRACTIONS

SONIC



NO. 110

Next issue:

As if things couldn't get worse for our heroes, "In Station Square Attacks" Robotropolis to get rid of the threat of Dr. Robotnik once and for all. However, it's being done with nuclear weapons that will surely affect the Kingdom of Acorn. Can Sonic and Tails save Dr. R in time? Benny and Ron show you what they do next. As for Karl and J. Aker, they bring to you a weird story about Princess Sally and the Sword of Acorns having a very in-depth conversation. We kid you not. Also in this issue, Spaz's cover gallery as they were meant to be. Spaz picks out his favorite Sonic covers of the year in (1995-2001). Check out his selection without the logos and in B/W for your coloring pleasure.

Hey Guys!

Congratulations on a lot of things! First, for passing issue 100! Next, congratulations for the newcomer Mist Dawn! Seeing her art thus far, I KNOW she'll be one of the all time greats. She's an inspiration. I used to do exactly the same, and still do. When I first started collecting, I too drew every panel that drew my interest, and now I can do my own stuff from that practicing. Maybe I too will one day work in your offices => We can dream. And finally, congratulations on keeping a steadfast quality to your comics that no other can for so many years.

Your comic has and always will be

the best. The future holds so much for Mobius. The writers have an ability to pen stories that grab the adult imagination as well as youngsters alike, and that's what makes the comic truly special. The artwork is to die for. The reader needs not to struggle to grasp what's going on. I will forever be on the lookout for Sonic each and every month. (And who knows, maybe Knuckles again one day...)

Also, I LOVE how you've included Downunda in your comics a lot. As a fellow Downunda freedom fighter, I know a little about it's past. (I guess being a student paleontologist also helps! P) But I couldn't help notice you call the Diprotodon a dinosaur. That made me wince. Since when did dinosaurs have fur? Just so you know, the Diprotodon was a marsupial, with a pouch for its young, more related to Wombat Su than any dinosaur ^___. Also, for future reference, if it flew, swam, or had fur, it's not a dinosaur. Birds on the other hand...

Anyway, congratulations on everything! We've survived a hundred, what's another hundred got that we can't handle!

Jonathon Dobbs, 19
Perth, Western Australia

That's easy for you to say, Jonathan. We're the ones who have to produce 'em! Seriously though, if the readers have as good a time as we do, then it's been all worthwhile. Regarding the dino on your version of Downunda, who's to say the Mobian aren't different in some manner from what we're used to, whether it's genetically natural or the result of some mutation? Anyone else have any thoughts on the various life forms found on Mobius?

Dear Sonic Team,

As far as I'm concerned, Ken's started the new year off right with a short and to-the-point story that brings things back to what passes for normal around these parts. For the time being, anyway. Good show.

With the appearance of the as-yet-unnamed Lara-Su, one of the most insistent fan questions of recent times finds an answer. For years now literally, ever since Ken Penders broke the news that the "Knuckles: 20 Years Later" story arc would feature the daughter of Knuckles and Julie-Su, a segment of the fan base has been peppering Ken with the same question during every chat session: "What color is Lara-Su?" To tell you the truth, I NEVER imagined that there would be this kind of fan frenzy for a character

even before she set foot on the page! And it's significant that she's a teenage girl; this should demonstrate once and for all that that's a segment of the fan base that will NOT be denied. They were poised ... primed ... READY ... for one of their own to enter the continuity. And a lot of fan art (and I don't know how much fanfic) has been waiting on the answer to the question: "What's her color?" So now we know: she's red with her mother's violet eyes and hair to match. The glasses perched on the end of her snout were actually inspired by the eyewear of one of the fans.

As for the art, Dawn Best did a terrific job with her penciling! Ken may have planned the layouts on each page, but I have to wonder whether anyone else could have captured Lara-Su's pensive moods at the top of page 5. That, to me, is one of the tests of a comic artist: can you make a character look good when they're standing still and not just in motion? This is one of the traits that separate old school comic artists from the manga and manga-inspired artists: a Zen-like appreciation for stillness without a dependence on broad action. Not that Dawn is a slouch in THAT department, either. Welcome aboard, Lara-Su.

Any concern about Lara-Su meeting up with her dad "Back To The Future"-style sort of takes a back seat in light of the last panel's revelation that Constable Remington is somehow slated or fated to kill Knuckles. Then again, that depends on what your definition of "kill" is. After two stories drumming it into our heads that Knuckles couldn't alter the past even with oodles of Chaos energy at his disposal, so why should we think Lara-Su will be any luckier in altering what may be Knuckles' future but which is also HER past? Don'tcha just hate time travel stories?

I've got good vibes about Lara-Su for the moment, but admittedly it's still early in the game. She looks like she inherited a measure of her mom's spunk and attitude, something that Julie-Su herself has been missing lately. But it remains to be seen whether Knuckles' daughter in a fight ultimately acts like Lara-Le or Lara Croft. I think her fans are betting on the latter. Frankly, so am I.

Daniel Drazen

Dad, yours was one of many comments we've received concerning Lara-Su, every one sounding a positive note, but now that you've read the ending, it wasn't quite from Knuckles' future she came from. Still, if enough of you write in and say so, we'll figure out a way to bring her back.